

THE
WINTER EVENING'S
COMPANION:

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TREATING

Of the most remarkable Conquests, Insurrections,
and Revolutions, that have happened in various
Kingdoms, their Present State, Laws, Customs
and Manners; with the natural and artificial
Curiosities most worthy of Note in each.

Illustrated with COPPER-PLATES.

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THE



THE
WINTER'S EVENING
ENTERTAINMENT.

BOOK III.

*Of several very remarkable TRAVELS
into foreign Countries.*

CHAP. VI.

*The Character of the Country People and
Peasants of Lithuania, in the Kingdom of
Prussia, bordering upon Courland. By
Mr. Mathæi Petorii.*

TH E Commonality and Peasants among the *Lithuanians*, for the Generality, are an idle, lazy, indolent People; however, they are close and cunning, and reserved in their Rogueries.

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They

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They are very ravenous and greedy in their Victuals, and are never satisfied; they will devour their Food like Hounds, and be never the fatter for it: They feed on coarse Rye Bread; the Flour is ground, and baked with the Husks together; for fine Bread would be little better than a Froth to their Stomachs. They will swallow White Peas by whole Handfuls, which they discharge as they go down; they have a Sort of Black Peas, which are as hard as Pebbles, these they boil, eat, and digest, their Stomachs being used to them; they will eat Wolves, Foxes, Ravens, Owls, Crows, and such like Flesh: When they geld Horses, Swine, Calves, Sheep, and Goats, they'll fry the Stones, and eat them with a good Appetite. As long as they are drove to work, they will keep at it; otherwise they will idle their Time away and do nothing.

Their Cloathing is of coarse Linnen and Woollen, which is spun and wove by the Women: The Girls wear checked Wrappers about their Waste down to their Ancles, and Caps of black Velvet on their Heads, in the Form of a Turret, the Rims whereof are garnished either with natural or artificial Flowers: They also wear a linnen Cloth about their Shoulders. Married Women

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men wear a round flat Covering like a Trencher, which is wrapt up with Linnen. Their Shoes are made of the Bark of Trees, with which they also tie them to their Feet; on *Sunday*, when they go to Church, they wear leather Shoes: The Women carry theirs, all the Way they go, tied to their Girdle, and go barefoot, till they come to the Church-Door; then indeed they put them on. In case they hurt themselves, or are wounded, they clap some Clay or Earth to the Part affected, which is their Remedy: If they happen to break a Leg or an Arm, they take the Bark of a Willow-Tree, and cut it to the Length and Compass of the Limb; with that they make a Bandage, and without any Thing else, perfectly cure it. They are the worst Customers to Doctors and Apothecaries of any People living. They very much frequent Bagnio's; they build an Oven of Stone, which they make red hot; then pouring Water upon it, heat the Room to that prodigious Degree, that it would be intolerable to any one that was not used to it; when they go into them, they take a Bunch of Birch, with Leaves upon it, which they heat at the Oven, and then whip themselves all over the Body: Having done this, they run out of the hot Bagnio, and fling themselves headlong into

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cold Water; and this is their Manner of bathing; they do it almost every *Saturday*, and would rather chuse to live without Victuals, than refrain from bathing. To inure their Children to it, they take them along with them.

These People are much addicted to Drunkenness, both Men and Women love strong Liquors; they will do any thing for a Dram of Brandy, and whenever they have it in their Power to drink their fill of it, they will not leave it, whilst they can see or stand. They are a stubborn People, and if they have any Liberty given them, will do no good. They seldom or ever pray; some have no Knowledge of God, or his Word. Some Hundreds are in this Place, which never received the Sacrament: The Parsons will reprove them from their Pulpits, but it is to little or no Purpose. Other Parsons don't trouble their Heads about them; they let them go on in their own Way. When the Parson, either before or after Sermon, takes notice of their Cattle in his Prayers, they will fetch deep groaning Sighs, for their Cattle is more precious to them than their own Souls. When they are griped in their Bowels, they will say that their Souls are in Pain.

The

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The Women, in *Litbuania*, will be at Work to the last Minute they are brought to Bed ; frequently they are delivered without a Midwife, or any other Woman about them : As soon as the Child is born, the Mother goes again to her Work, and not one in an Hundred, will, on that Account, keep any Time in Bed. They ask three Persons to stand Godfathers or Godmothers. When they carry the Child to Church to be baptized, they'll sling, in their Way thither, a Farthing, or a little blue coloured Yarn, on all the Fields or Villages they pass through, which belong to other People : And tho' I have often asked the Reason of this Custom, I could never be satisfied. When the Child is christened, and the Gossips are come to the House again to feast, the Mother of the Child, attended by the Midwife, and another Woman, go into the Bagnio, where they have an old Cock or Hen ready boiled. As soon as they enter the Bagnio, they fall on their Knees, pray, and return Thanks to the Virgin *Mary*, for having assisted the good Woman in her Labour ; after this they eat the boiled Fowl, and drink a large Jug of Beer, which makes them merry : The Remains of the Fowl they bury privately in the Ground, both Flesh and Bones, for none but these three

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Women must taste the least Bit thereof; After which they go to the Rest of the Company, drink, dance, and are merry all Night long. The Godfathers and Godmothers, who stand to the first Child, stand for all that are born afterwards. When the Child comes to be a Twelvemonth old, the Godmother, or in case she be dead, one of the nearest Relations, cuts a Lock off of the Child's Head, by which she becomes its Guardian, or nearest Friend.

Their Marriages are managed as odd as their Christenings. It is the same Thing whether the Man or the Woman employs a Match-maker. Their Weddings are generally put off to *All-Saints Day*, or Harvest Time, when 30 or 40 Couple are married in one Day. On this Occasion they kill a Stag, eat, drink, and are merry, for a whole Week together; and in case some are married before, the Feasting is put off till *All-Saints Day*. At this Time the Bridegroom sends a Waggon, which is hooped over, and covered with several coloured Cloths, to the Bride; it is attended with a Band of drunken Musicians; the one beats a Drum, another blows the Trumpet, some wind the *French Horn*, others ring Bells, and make a Noise, as would frighten a Bear away, in case they should happen to meet
with

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with one by the Way. When they come to the Bride's House, they are made welcome with strong Beer; then the Bride, and her nearest Friends, go into the Waggon; and accompanied with those Musicians, they drive on till they come to the Bridegroom's House. The Bride and her Friends being got out of the Waggon, the Company presently break the Waggon in Pieces, and make a Bonfire of it; then the Bride and Bridegroom are conducted into a Room; the nearest Friends make a Fire in the next Apartment to it, and watch all Night long. Next Day the Wedding Entertainments begin; the Bride, with the rest of the Women, repair to the Bagnio, to which she is conducted by the Bridegroom's Mother, and the rest of the Women; after that they go to eating, drinking, and merry-making.

I shall conclude this Account with their Funeral Ceremonies: When a Person dies among the *Lithuanians*, they dress the Corpse in several Suits of Cloaths: If it be a Woman, they put her on two Shifts, and lay two or three more next to her in her Coffin; they also furnish her with Needles and Thread, and likewise with some Money, and when they are asked why this is done; they will answer that it is to mend their

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Cloaths when worn out. Not long ago they buried a Farmer, with his Cloaths on, boot-ed and spurred, having a Whip in his Right-hand, just as if he was prepared for a long Journey. This People cannot be brought to believe the Resurrection of the Dead, and tho' the Parsons take all the Pains they can to make it plain to them, and to beat it into their Heads, it will not enter their dull Brains. If one dies in the Morning, he is buried before Night; they do not chuse to have a dead Corpse lie all Night in their House, except the Person dies in the Evening. Not long since, a young Fellow, by all Appearance dead, was put into a Coffin; but when they were ready to carry him to the Grave, he rose up an End, all on a sudden, looked about him, and called out for Victuals. Being asked where he had been: ' Been! says he, where would you have had me been? I find I have not laid easy, for my Back achs most confoundedly;' and seeing what Sort of a Bed they had put him into, he easily could guess at the Cause thereof.

When a Man dies, the Widow attends the Funeral no farther than the Threshold of the Door: They bewail their Dead with a doleful, lamentable Tone; *Obubu! Obubu! Obubu!* They ask the Dead what they departed

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parted for ; whether they wanted Victuals or Drink, Cloaths or Shoes ? They cry, *Why didst thou die ? Obubu ! Obubu ! Obubu !* Thus they make a very doleful Noise, and behave in such a comical Manner, that one cannot refrain laughing to see them. After they are returned from the Grave to the House, they propose directly a Match to the Widower or Widow, and in a Week or a Fortnight's Time there is another Wedding ; for they will seldom stay till *All-Saints* Day, especially such as are House-keepers.

Formerly they used to put Victuals and Drink into the Grave, but the Parsons preaching much against that Heathenish Custom, they have left it off ; but Money they will still sling into the Grave. In a Month's Time after the Burial, the nearest Friends and Relations of the Deceased meet together, and having prepared every Thing for a grand Entertainment, and the Victuals being set on the Table, they sit for half an Hour without speaking one Word ; then they kneel down, and pray to God to repose the Soul of their deceased Friend ; they then seat themselves at Table again, and begin to eat and drink of every Thing, be it Flesh, Fish, or Bread ; they sling some of it under the Table for the Soul of the Deceased ; they also pour the first Cup of Beer

under the Table, for the same Purpose: The Reason they give for their so doing is this: They say the Soul cannot rest till this is done for it. To give a particular Account of the various Superstitions of this People, would require a Volume of itself; what I have here related, I think, will be sufficient to give the Reader an Idea of the rest.

C H A P. VII.

A short Account of the Country People and Peasants in Courland.

AS the People of *Courland's* Manner of living is much the same with that of the *Lithuanians*, it will not, we presume, be disagreeable to the Reader, if an Account thereof should be annexed to the foregoing.

We must premise, that the better Sort of the Inhabitants, in the principal Towns, and Cities of *Courland*, are as polite and well educated, as in any other *European* Countries; they are provided with regular Physicians, Lawyers, and Priests; they go to Church as finely dressed; have Dancing-Masters, Fencing-Masters, Peruke-Makers, Pastry-

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Pastry - Cooks, Milliners, Confectioners, Taverns, and other such Necessaries for a polite and gay Life, to which the Peasants in the Country are utter Strangers; for when they come to Town, it is only on Account of fetching some Money from thence, and return more satisfied to their homely Cottages than when they set out from them. But notwithstanding, those Peasants are a very subtle, cunning People; and tho' they can neither read nor write, they are nevertheless good Philosophers.

The Country People in *Courland* are for the generality Peasants, who follow Husbandry, manure the Land, rear up Cattle, &c. and, in order to regulate their Business with good Management, and proper Care, they endeavour to inform themselves of Wind and Weather, by the preceding Signs. As for Example:

The Presages for Thunder they take to be the following: When the Eels come on Shore, and crawl about on dry Land; when the Fowls grub and scratch in Ashes or Sand, and lay their Feathers in Order with their Bills, or clap often with their Wings; when the Cats frequently lick their Paws, or else frisk about and make strange Gambols. Thunder commonly discharges Winter: After the first Thunder, the remaining
Ice

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Ice in the River sinks. When the Clouds appear in various Figures, it is a Sign of Thunder; if black, they forebode hard Thunder-Weather, without Lightning.

When in the Night-Time it lightens from the North, it is attended with a heavy Shower of Rain. Much Lightning without Rain is hurtful to young Crops, especially to Wheat. Red Clouds are Fore-runners of Lightning.

If the Sun sets in light red Clouds, it denotes Wind: On that Side where the Ring about the Moon breaks, from that Quarter one may expect the Wind. When the full Moon is of a reddish Colour, it forebodes Wind; or from that Part where the Stars are seen to shoot. When in the Night before *New-Years* Day, the Wind is high, it presages great Sickness: When the Dogs turn themselves on the Ground; when the Geese fly Eastwards; when the Porpoises are seen to play in Numbers on the Surface of the Sea; when Crows dip themselves in Water, or the Geese pick their Feathers, and fly South, if the Wind rises North; or North, if the Wind rises South, all those Signs forebode high Wind. The South Winds commonly bring hot Weather.

When the Women are incommoded, and bit by the Fleas; when the Sun at rising is
very

very red, and turns blackish upon it; when the Sun Beams at rising are mixed with black Clouds; when the Sun is scorching; when red Clouds are hovering about the Sun; when at rising or setting the Sun shoots long Beams; when the Sun at setting is hid; when the Horns of the new Moon is dark; when the Disk of the Moon is blackish; when the Moon has a Ring; when the Stars do not twinkle; when the Stars have Rings about them; when any of the seven Planets shine darkish; when after a great Storm a Calm ensues; when the Dew rises; when the Bubbles remain for some Time in Rain on the Water; when the Fog rises; when it lightens from the North; all these presage Rain. When in the Morning it begins to rain, with an easterly Wind, it is a Sign it will hold on for all Day; when the Candles sparkle more than usual; when the Salt grows damp; when the Hills smoak, it signifies Rain; when the Flame of the Candle, and the Cobwebs are in Motion in still Weather, it forebodes both Wind and Rain.

When the Sun sets bright and clear; when the Ring about the Moon is thin, transparent, and soon vanishes; when the full Moon shines bright; when the Stars
clear

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clear themselves; when the Fog falls; when the Tops of the Hills are bright and clear.

The Nights on which happens the Change of the new Moon are warmest.

Much Fog is unwholesome, both for Men and Cattle.

The shooting of Stars on different Places signifies unsettled Weather.

About *Michaelmas* they inspect the Acorns, and if the Inside is clear and fine, it signifies a cold Winter, and a fine Summer, also a good Corn Year; if they find a Spider in them, they expect a good and happy Year; if a Fly is found therein, then it denotes warm and dry Weather, and a middling Crop; if a Worm or Maggot, a good Year. Fire-Sparks, sticking to the Pot after it has been taken from the Fire, signifies Wind; when the Fire on the Hearth burns pale, or the Smoak ascends thick through the Chimney, 'tis a Sign of Rain.

When the Cattle at Noon-Day gasp for Air, it forebodes Rain; when Hogs move Straw backwards and forwards; when Dogs turn about; when Dogs and Cats eat Grass; when the Dogs scratch up the Ground; when the black Cattle lick the Hoofs of their Feet, or lie on their Right-Side; when Hogs continue longer than ordinary in the Mire; when Horses move their Ears, or rub

rub their Backs on the Ground ; when the Butterflies are plentifully about ; when the Rain-Worms come out, and crawl upon the Ground ; when the Flies and Gnats are troublesome ; when the Ants remove their Eggs to another Place ; when the Mice run backwards and forwards, and squeak ; when the Sheep in the Evening as they are drove in, are eager in eating of Grass by the Way ; when the Goats or Weathers push much against one another ; when the Calves caper and jump about ; when the Geese in fair Weather gather in one Place, and with a loud Noise hasten to their Meat, or beat their Wings often in the Water ; when the Nightingale sings sooner than ordinary before Evening ; when the Sparrows in the Evening make a great Noise ; when the Cocks clap their Wings ; when the Martins or Swallows fly from and to their Nests, or touch, in their Flight, the Ground ; when Peacocks, or Dunghil Cocks make a Noise ; when the Dogs are still and melancholy ; when the Ducks make a splattering with their Wings in the Water ; all these are Signs of Rain.

I could tell many more of such Notions the *Courlanders* have, by which they regulate their Business with more Certainty, than we do by our Almanacks ; but as I believe

to have trespassed too much upon the Reader's Patience, I shall conclude this Account with some odd Customs this People still observe among themselves.

The *Christmas* Eve is kept among the *Courland* Peasants with several Superstitions, and ridiculous Customs and Ceremonies; among the rest, they lay a great Log on the Hearth, and let it leisurely burn till next Morning; what remains, they lay up carefully till the next Spring: Then they split some Pieces, or chop some Chips off it, and fling them a cross the Entry of the Gateway, through which their Cattle, the next Day, must pass into the Common: Such of the Cattle that hit their Legs against the Chips, will absolutely either die, or be devoured by the Wolf; or at least receive some Hurt or other.

On the same Eve, the single Men and Maidens divert themselves by informing themselves whether they shall be married that Year or no: The Maids go into a Sheep-fold in the Dark, and what they first lay hold on, they bring out; if it happens to be a Ram, then she promises herself, before the *Christmas* following, a Husband; but if a Sheep, she concludes she will not be married that Year. The young Men do the like; if they take hold of a Sheep, they
promise

promise themselves a Sweetheart, or a Wife; but if a Ram, to continue Bachelors for all the next Year. They have also, on that Eve, a Custom of melting Wax, and pouring it into clean Water, and from the Forms and Figures it makes, they prognosticate many strange Things that shall happen, as to Marriages: Whether the Party will be young or old, rich or poor; how many Children they shall have, and whether they will be Sons or Daughters, and such like Stuff. But all these merry Gambols they perform with panick Fear, lest the Parson of the Parish should be informed thereof, who always shews himself very angry at such Persons as he can discover to be guilty of those Follies; but the People are commonly true to one another, and can keep Secrets.

October is in their Language called *Deewa Deenas*, i. e. God's Days, because at the latter End of this Month, the *Courlanders*, after they were converted to the Christian Religion, continued their former idolatrous Custom of feasting the Souls of the Deceased, by calling them out of their Graves to be fed. They first prepared the Table on which the Victuals was to be placed, and if it had not been cleaned all the Year before, it was then thoroughly scoured, and
placed

placed in a private Room, Shed or Barn; then it was spread over with a clean white Table-Cloth or Sheet, and furnished with Victuals, the best they could afford; then they called the Deceased by their Name, as *John, Betty, Catharine, &c.* and invited him or her to come there, and eat what was prepared, but not to go upon their Fields, nor do them any Hurt.

It has often happened, that in the Night time, the Dogs have had the Scent of the Victuals; and having forced their Way into the Barn, have eat up all that was prepared; and afterwards, when the People of the Feast have seen their Dishes empty, they have rejoiced, and taken it as a good Omen, since the Souls vouchsafed to partake of what they had provided. But this superstitious Custom having been much preached against by the *Lutheran* Ministers, it is now seldom heard of; tho' it is still practised up and down the Country, where they can be private.

That Month is chiefly spent in Mirth and Jollity, and most Weddings are celebrated at that Time. Tho' the *Courlanders* marry at any Time of the Year, yet the young Couple are not allowed to bed together, till the Wedding Feast is over, were they to put it off for a Year or two. The
Pea-

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Peasants, for the Generality, are very illiterate, and very much addicted to superstitious Follies, as Witchcraft, Sorcery, &c. and all that can be said in their Praise is, that they understand Agriculture and Husbandry as well as any Nation whatsoever.

C H A P. VIII.

A short Account of the Emperor of China's Journey into the Eastern Tartary, in the Year 1682; and of a second to the Western, in 1683.

THE Emperor of *China*, having quelled a Revolt of three rebellious Kings, and put them to Death, with the rest of the principal Ring-leaders of their Faction, concluded a War which had lasted for seven Years successively. And after he had re-established the Empire, and all the Provinces, to the peaceable Enjoyment of their ancient Liberties and Properties, he resolved upon a Journey to the Eastern *Tartary*, and to take in his Way the Province of *Leao-tum*, a Country of his Ancestors, in order to visit their Sepulchres, and to honour them with the usual Ceremonies, on Account of

of his intended Journey; for which Purpose he set out from *Pekin*, the Place of his Residence, the 23d of *March*, 1682.

The Emperor took with him his eldest Son, a Prince of ten Years of Age, who already had been declared Heir and Successor of the Empire: The three principal Queens also attended this Journey, each in a gilded Chariot, with all the Kings, Princes, and Grandees of the Court, and the most considerable Mandarins of all the Orders; who, having all a numerous Train of Attendants, and a very splendid Equipage, made a Court about the Emperor of more than 70,000 Persons. It was the Emperor's Will, that the Author of this Relation should accompany him in his Journey, and that he should be always near his Person, in order to make, in his Presence, the Observations necessary for knowing the Disposition of the Heavens, the Elevation of the Pole, the magnetical Declinations of every Place, and for measuring, with mathematical Instruments, the Height of the Mountains, and the Distances of Places; the Emperor was also pleased to be informed of what concerned Meteors, and many other physical and mathematical Matters; insomuch that he gave Orders to an Officer to carry upon Horses such Instruments

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ments as there should be Occasion for, and recommended the Author to the Prince his Uncle, who was also his Father-in-Law, and the second Person of the State ; he also honoured him with a *Chinese* Name, which signifies an Associate of the Emperor.

In this Journey they always proceeded towards the North-East. From *Pekin* to the Province of *Leaotum*, the Road, which is pretty even, was about 300 Miles ; the Province of *Leaotum* itself is about 400 Miles, but the Road much more uneven on Account of the Mountains ; from the Frontiers of this Province to the City of *La*, on the River, which the *Tartars* call *Songoro*, and the *Chinese* *Sumboa*, the Road, for about 400 Miles, is very bad, it being sometimes crossed by Mountains which are extremely steep ; sometimes by Vallies of extraordinary Depth, and through desert Plains for two or three Days Journey : The Mountains of this Country are covered on the East Side with great Oaks, and old Forests, which have not been cut for many Ages : All the Districts beyond the Province of *Leaotum* are exceedingly desert, nothing is to be seen on all Sides but Mountains and Vallies ; also Dens of Bears, Tygers, and other Beasts of Prey : Scarcely a House is to be seen, but only some poor
Reed

Reed Huts by the Sides of Brooks and Streams. All the Cities and Towns in the Province of *Leaotum*, of which there be great Numbers, are entirely ruinous; for the Vassal King of the *Tartars*, who set the late War on Foot, having but a very small Army, caused the Inhabitants of those Places to take up Arms, and forthwith to destroy these Towns, that he might take from his Soldiers the Hopes of ever returning again to their own Homes.

From *Pekin* towards the East there is made a new Road, by which the Emperor may commodiously march with his Horse, and the Queens travel in their Chariots; this Road is about ten Feet broad, and as level and streight as possible; it extends for above 1000 Miles; it hath a little Rising on each Side about a Foot high, every where equal, and perfectly parallel to each other; and this Road was as neat, especially when the Weather was fair, as a Floor where the Husbandmen thresh out their Corn in the Field: There were also certain Persons, who all along took Care to smoothe and cleanse it. There was made, for the Emperor's Return, a Road like the former; Mountains were levelled, and Bridges raised over Rivers; and for ornamenting them, they had extended on each Side of them a
Sort

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Sort of Mats, on which divers Figures of Animals were painted, which had the same Effect with Tapestry Hangings: The Emperor seldom made use of this Road, being generally taken up with the Diversion of Hunting; and when he was accompanied with the Queens, he only rode along by the Side of it, that the Number of Horse in his Train might not spoil it; he ordinarily marched at the Head of his Army, the Queens following immediately at some Distance, in their Chariots, with their Train and Equipage; the Vassal-Kings, the Grandees of the Court, and the Mandarins, every one according to his Rank, followed the Queens; and a great Number of Attendants and other People on Horse-back brought up the Rear: As there was not one City on all this Road, that could either lodge so great a Multitude, or furnish them with Provisions; so they were obliged to carry along with them Necessaries for the Journey, and even Provisions for three Months: On this Account there were sent before, by the Roads made on each Side of the Emperor's, a great Number of Waggon, Camels, Horses, and Mules for carrying the Baggage; besides these, the Emperor, Kings, and almost all the Grandees of the Court, had a great Number of Horses for Relays,
and

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and Drovers of Beeves, Sheep, and other Cattle; and tho' they march'd at a good Distance from the Emperor, yet they raised thick Clouds of Dust, so that it was hard to distinguish any one at 15 or 20 Paces. The March was so well regulated, that this Army encamped every Night on the Banks of some River or Brook; and for this Reason, the Tents and Baggage necessary for this Encampment set out very early in the Morning; and the Quarter-masters, on their first Arrival, marked out the properest Ground for the Tents of the Emperor, Queens, Kings, Grandees of the Court, and of the Mandarins, each according to his Dignity, and according to the Station and Rank they bore in the *Chinese* Militia, which was divided into eight Orders or Standards: In the Space of three Months, they marched about 1000 Miles, advancing towards the North-East, and about as many in their Return; in fine, they arrived at *Kam-Hay*, a Fort situated between the *South-Sea* and the Mountains of the North; it is here the celebrated Wall begins, which divides the Province of *Leaotum* from that of *Pekely*, from whence it extends very far Northwards, over the Tops of the highest Mountains: Upon entering this Province, the Emperor, the Kings, and the Grandees of the Court
quitted

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quitted the great Road, to take that of the Mountains of the North, which are extended without Interruption towards the North-east ; there, some Days were spent in Hunting, which was perform'd in this Manner : The Emperor chose 3000 Men of his Life-guard, arm'd with Arrows and Javelins, and disposed them in such a Manner, that they took up a great Compass, making a kind of Circle, whose Diameter was at least 3000 Paces ; then drawing nearer to each other, without quitting their Ranks, the Emperor joining with them several of the Captains and of the Grandees of the Court, for the better keeping of Order, they by this Means reduced this great Circle to another much less, about 300 Paces in Diameter ; so that all the Beasts that were inclosed in the first, found themselves taken in this last as in a Net : for the Men stood so close together, that they left no sufficient Opening for them to escape ; then they pursued them so vigorously in this small Compass, that the poor Animals, tired with the Violence of their Courfing, came and fell down at the Feet of their Chasers, and suffered themselves to be taken without any Trouble : The Author had seen two or three hundred Hares taken in this Manner in less than one Day, besides a

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great

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great Number of Wolves and Foxes. After having travel'd about 400 Miles in hunting in this Manner, they arriv'd at last at *Xyn Yam*, the Capital of the Province of *Leao-tum*; during the Emperor's Stay in this City, he, with his Queens, went to visit the Sepulchres of his Ancestors, which are but a small Distance from this Place, from whence he sent back the Queens to *Xyn Yam*; but he himself continued his Journey into the *Eastern Tartary*: After several Days marching and hunting, he arriv'd at *Kirin*, 400 Miles from *Xyn Yam*; this City is built along the great River *Son-goro*, which takes its Source from the Mountain *Cham-pe*, the ancient Seat of the *Tartars*, which is 400 Miles distant towards the South, and is always covered with Snow: As soon as the Emperor saw the City, he alighted from his Horse, and fell down on his Knees on the Bank of the River, and bow'd himself three Times to the Ground to salute it; after which, he caus'd himself to be carried on a glorious Throne of Gold, and thus he made his Entrance into the Place; all the People ran in Throngs before him, testifying by their loud Acclamations, the Joy they had to see him: This Prince took great Pleasure in those Testimonies of their Affections, and to
give

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give them some Marks of his being sensible thereof, he was pleased to suffer himself to be seen by all, and bid his Guards not to hinder the People from approaching him, as they used to do at *Pekin*: In this City, there are Barks of a particular Construction; the Inhabitants always keep a great Number of them in readiness, to repulse the *Muscovites*, who come often into this River, to dispute the Fishing of Pearls. The Emperor reposed himself at *Kirin* for two Days, and after that he went down the River, accompanied with more than 100 Boats, till he arrived at the City of *Ula*, the fairest in all this Country, and which formerly was the Seat of the Empire of the *Tartars*: A little below this City, which is at most but 32 Miles from *Kirin*, the River abounds in a certain Fish, which resembles pretty much the Plaice of *Europe*; and it was principally to take the Diversion of Fishing, that the Emperor went to *Ula*; but the Rains coming on so suddenly, swell'd the River so much, that all their Nets were broken, and carried away: And in their Return to *Pekin*, they underwent infinite Fatigues, the Roads having been spoiled by the Rains, and rendered almost impassable; there being in several Places great Collections of Water and Mud; the

Bridges were either overturned by the Violence of the Currents, or cover'd all over by the overflowing of the Waters: The Author understood from the Inhabitants of *Ula*, that *Nincrita*, a Place much renowned in those Parts, is distant from *Ula* 700 *Chinese* Stadia, each of which is 360 geometrical Paces, and that embarking at *Nincrita* upon the great River *Heleum*, into which the *Songoro*, and some other more considerable Rivers discharge themselves, and following the Course of the River, which runs towards the Noath-east, or somewhat more to the North, they arrive in 40 Days at the *Eastern Sea*, which is probably the Streights of *Anien*.

The Emperor, in 1683, made a second Journey into the *Western Tartary*, together with the Queen his Grandmother, call'd the Queen-mother; he set out the 16th of *July*, attended with more than 60,000 Men, and 100,000 Horses; there were several Reasons for undertaking this Journey; and among others, the following were the principal.

The first was, to keep his forces, both in Peace and War, in continual Exercise; and for this Reason it was, that after he had established a firm Peace in all Parts of this vast Empire, he recall'd his best Troops from every Province, and resolved in his Council to
make

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make every Year Expeditions of this Sort ; that by hunting of Deers, Boars, Bears and Tygers, they might learn to overcome the Enemies of the Empire, or at least to prevent the cooling of their Courage, and their degenerating from their pristine Valour, by the Luxury of *China*, in a long Tract of Peace : In Effect, these Hunting-Matches had more of the Shew of a military Expedition, than of Diversion ; they were all arm'd with Arrows and Scimitars, divided into Companies, and march'd in Battle Array after their Standards, with the Sound of Drums and Trumpets ; during their hunting, they entirely invested the Mountains and Forests, as if they had been Cities which they designed to besiege ; imitating in this, the Manner of hunting of the *Eastern Tartars* : This Army had its Van and Rear Guards, its main Body and its right and left Wings, which were commanded by so many Generals and petty Kings.

More than 70 Days were spent, before they set forwards on their March, in making Provision for the Army ; for in all the *Western Tartary*, so call'd, not in Respect to *China*, which is itself Westward of it, but in Respect to the *Eastern Tartary*, there is nothing to be seen but Mountains, Rocks

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and Vallies ; there are neither Cities, Towns or Villages, nor so much as any Houses ; the Inhabitants lodge under Tents, pitched on all Sides in the open Fields ; they are generally Shepherds, and convey their Tents from one Valley to another, according as they find Pasture ; they breed no Hogs, nor any of those Animals which elsewhere are fed in Villages, as Poultry and Geese ; but but only such as feed on Herbs, produced in an uncultivated Country ; they pass their Lives, either in hunting, or doing nothing at all ; and as they neither sow nor cultivate their Land, so they have no Harvests ; they live on Milk, Cheese, and Flesh, and have a Sort of Wine, not unlike our *Aqua Vita*, with which they make merry and are often drunk ; in a Word, their greatest Care is, to eat and drink, like the Beasts and Drovers which they feed : They are not without their Priests, whom they call *Lamas*, and for whom they have a great Veneration ; and in this they differ from the Oriental *Tartars*, the greatest Part of whom have no Religion, nor any Belief of a God ; for the rest, both the one and the other are Slaves, and wholly depend on the Will of their Masters, whose Religion and Manners they blindly follow : This Part of *Tartary* lies without the prodigious *Chinese* Wall, about

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about 1000 Stadia, that is, more than 300 *German Miles*, and extends from the North-east towards the North : The Emperor rode on Horseback, at the Head of his Army, through Desarts and steep Mountains, far from great Roads, exposed all Day to the Heat of the Sun, to Rains, and all the Injuries of the Weather.

The second Reason of undertaking this Journey, was to keep the *Western Tartars* in their Allegiance, and to prevent any pernicious Design form'd against the State : It was for this Reason that he enter'd their Country with so great an Army, and with such warlike Preparations; and that he caused at several Times, great Guns to be discharged, to strike Terror into the Rout: Besides this great Retinue, he would still be accompanied with all the Marks of Grandeur of the Court of *Pekin*, viz. with a Number of Drums, Trumpets, Timbrels, and other musical Instruments; which form'd Concerts, either whilst he sat at Table, when he enter'd the Palace, or when he went out; that by this external Pomp he might astonish this barbarous People, and inspire them with the Fear and Respect of his Imperial Majesty; for the Empire of *China* never had any Enemies more formidable than these *Western Tartars*;

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who begin, from the East of *China*, to encompass it with an almost infinite Number of People, and keep it, as it were, continually besieged on the West and North Sides thereof; and it was to make a Bulwark against their Incurfions, that an Emperor of *China*, in ancient Times, caused this great Wall to be built, which separates *China* from their Country: The Author had passed this Wall four Times, and had considered it very attentively, and he thinks he can say, without Exaggeration, that all the seven Wonders of the World, put together, are not comparable to this Work; and that all that Fame hath said concerning it, is far short of the Truth: Two Things are more especially remarkable; first, that vast Extent of Country from East to West, through which it passes; as in several Places, not only through vast Champaigns, but also over the Tops of exceeding high Mountains, on which it is raised by little and little, and fortified at certain Intervals with large Towers, not distant from each other more than two Flight Shot: He found its Height, in a Place he measured, 1037 geometrical Feet above the Horizon; so that it is hard to comprehend, how it was possible to raise this enormous Bulwark to that Height, in Places dry and mountainous, whither the
several

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several Materials, as Water, Brick and Mortar, must have been brought from a great Distance with incredible Labour: The second Thing surprising was, that this Wall is not continued in the same Line, but bent in several Places, according to the Situation of the Mountains; in such a Manner, that instead of one Wall, one may say there are three, which encompass this large Part of *China*: After all, the *Tartarian* Monarch, who united the *Chinese* and the *Tartars* under one and the same Government, hath done some Things, which are more for the Security of *China*, than that Emperor who built the long Wall; for, after reducing the *Western Tartars*, partly by Artifice, and partly by Force of Arms, he obliged them to remove to the Distance of 300 Miles from the *Chinese* Wall, where he distributed Lands and Pasture amongst them, and gave their Country to other *Tartars*, his Subjects; notwithstanding which, these *Western Tartars* are so powerful, that if ever they should unite together, they might make themselves Masters of all *China*, and of the *Eastern Tartary*: One of the principal Concerns of this Emperor was to engage to his Interest, by his royal Bounties, and by Demonstrations of a singular Affection, the *Lamas*, or Priests; for they,

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being

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being in great Repute amongst their own Nation, can easily persuade them to submit to the Government of so great a Prince; and it is in Consideration of this Service, that the present Emperor looks on the *Lamas* with a favourable Eye, that he bestows Presents on them, and that he makes Use of them to keep the *Tartars* in their Allegiance. This vast Country is divided into 48 Provinces; whence it is, that the Emperor of *China* may be justly call'd the greatest and most powerful Monarch of *Asia*: The present Emperor has charged himself with the whole Government, without sharing any Part of it with any of the *Calas*, or any of the great Men of his Court: He punishes with extraordinary Equity both high and low; he deprives them of their Charges, and degrades them from the Rank they held, proportioning always the Punishment to the Heinousness of the Crime; he takes Cognisance of the Affairs transacted in the royal Council, and the other Tribunals; in a Word, he disposes of, and orders every Thing himself; and it is on Account of the absolute Authority he hath thus acquired, that the greatest Lords of the Court, and Persons of the highest Quality in the Empire, even the Princes of the Blood, never appear in
his

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his Presence, but with the profoundest Respect.

The third Reason the Emperor had for this Journey, was on Account of his Health; because he knew by Experience, that when he is too long at *Pekin*, without going abroad, he cannot avoid falling into several Distempers, which he prevents by Means of these long Progresses; for during the whole Journey he never sees any Woman; and which is more surprising, there is but one in all this great Army, except those of the Retinue of the Queen-mother; and it is very rarely that she, or any of the Queens, accompany the Emperor in these Tours.

Another Reason of this Journey, was to avoid the excessive Heats of *Pekin*, in the Summer, during the Dog-days; for in this Part of *Tartary*, there reigns, during the Months of *July* and *August*, so cold a Wind, especially in the Night, that it is necessary to put on thick Cloaths and Furs; and this extraordinary Cold may be owing to the Country being high and mountainous, and to the Saltpetre, with which it also abounds: The Cold here is so violent, that frozen Clods, and Pieces of Ice, are dug up at the Depth of three or four Foot. For a Tract of more than 600 Miles, the
Emperor

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Emperor caused to be made a great Highway, a-cross Mountains and Vallies, for the Queen-mother, who rode in a Chariot; he built an infinite Number of Bridges over Torrents; and he also order'd Rocks to be cut through with incredible Labour and Expence.

C H A P. IX.

*A Continuation of Mr. CORTEN's Travels
from Tripoly to Aleppo.*

AUG. 28th, I went in an open Luggage-Boat from *Tripoly* to *Laodicea*. Towards Noon we sail'd between an Island and the Continent, where stood an old Castle: I was inform'd, that it was the Place of the ancient City *Arvad*, mention'd in *Ezek. xxvii. 11*. Towards Evening we arrived under a high Castle, which was situated on a Hill; it was call'd *Marab*, or *Maraub*; it may formerly have been strong, but now it is but little minded; the Fortifications on Hills are of late much out of Date, for in the Cross Wars, the *Turks*, after they had drove the Christians from these Countries, destroyed all the Castles, to hinder them, if they should return, from harbouring

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ing in them again; and in all my Journey, I have not seen one Fortification. *Jerusalem* I reckon to be the strongest Place, which is encompass'd with a plain Wall, without any Towers or Bastions: We lay here all Night at Anchor, but in the Morning we went from thence to a small City, call'd *Gibola*. Towards Evening we arrived safe at *Laodicea*.

This *Laodicea* is not the same mentioned in the *Revelations* of *St. John*, but one of that Name, which was built by the Mother of *Selenco*, and to her Memory was call'd after her own Name: I had with me a Letter from *Tripoly*, to the Convent in this Place, but the venerable Father belonging to it, being with his Servant in the Country, I lodged with a *Maronite*, who lived next to it. The next Morning I went out, and met with an *English* Merchant, who invited me to Dinner, and treated me in a Gentleman-like Manner. He assisted me in the Pursuit of my Journey, and gave me a Letter of Recommendation to his Friend at *Aleppo*. This *Laodicea*, commonly call'd *Lataky*, is a pretty little Place; but some Centuries ago, when in its flourishing State, it must have been a magnificent large City, as may be seen from the remaining Ruins. In one Garden I saw ten Marble Pillars in

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a Row, and in the same Line there were many more broke down, which I suppose was formerly a Street with Piazzas. Walking without the Gates of the City among the ancient Ruins thereof, I could not but contemplate on the total Overthrow of the Eastern Church, foretold in *Rev. ii. 4.*

September 5th, at Two o'Clock in the Morning, I set out from *Laodicea*, and arrived about Eleven at *Aleppo*: The fruitful Fields and Plains lasted from the Place where we set out for about three Hours, when the District changed into Hills and Vallies, till we came towards the City, where the Gardens begun, which are water'd by one Brook; but before I give a Description of this Place, I shall first set down a brief Account of my Journey to *Urfa*, in *Mesopotamia*.

November 11th, I set out for that Country; the Guide I took along with me was frequently employ'd by the *European Merchants*, as a Post-man or Messenger, and who was often sent by Merchants to their Correspondents, so that he was very well acquainted with the Road thither. We rode that Day about seven Hours only, because of securing our Lodging, since we thought it too late in the Winter to lay all Night in the open Fields. In the seven Hours, I saw no more than two Villages, and one Herd

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Herd or Camp, and where we put up, was a small Town, call'd *Byzag*: Not far from thence, I saw another Village; for in this Country it is a Rarity to see two Towns in Sight of one another.

November 12th, we rode full ten Hours, and continued over Night in a large Herd, since we could neither light of a Village nor House: In all the Roads we saw no more than three Villages, and that Camp wherein we staid, was the second, which contain'd about 150 Tents. We were carried before the *Aga* or *Emir* of the Herd, who suffer'd us to lie down to sleep, in the Tent where he used to perform his Devotions: (I had here a lively Idea of the Form of Government in *Abraham's* Time, and how it was when *Abraham* was King and Priest over his People.) He order'd Rice, Honey and Bread to be brought us: I presented him with a couple of my Loaves, which were baked at *Aleppo*, and very acceptable to him. The next Morning he offer'd two of his People for a Safe-guard; but being inform'd that I needed not be apprehensive of any Danger, I thank'd him, and having paid for my Lodging and Board one *Shalot*, or Florin, we rode about Sun-rising from that Camp or Herd, and before we got a great Way from thence, my Mind gave me, that in
case

case we had any thing to fear, it must be from that Herd, since I refused the Safe-guard that was proffer'd me by the *Aga*. I communicated my Apprehensions to my Guide, and he advised me to ride as fast as ever I could, which we did: After two Hours Ride, my Guide espied two Men full-drive behind us; he told me, that if they came up with us, they would certainly take our Horses and Cloaths, and leave us naked to shift for ourselves, or sell us for Slaves. We therefore rode full drive, in one Course, for two Hours together, when we overtook a Drove of Mules and Asses, with three Men; upon which our Pursuers turn'd Tail and went back; tho' they had gain'd so much upon us, that in less than half an Hour we should have been obliged to surrender. I cannot, when I think of this, but reflect on God's Providence, in preserving me from the immediate Danger, which at this Time threatened me: I never was a good Horseman before in my Life; but the *Arabian* Horse being swift of Foot, though I had only a *Turkish* Saddle like a Cushion, yet I outraced the Pursuit of my Enemies, and was thereby saved from Destruction.

In two Hours Time, we cross'd the River *Euphrates*, to the City of *Bir*, where we lodged the ensuing Night.

The

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The next Morning, *Nov.* 14, we set out from thence for *Urfa*, to which we had two Days Journey, each Journey eight full Hours: About half Way thither, was a great Caravansery, or public Inn, like a Castle: Here came many Peasants with Corn and other Provisions: They broke up at Midnight, and I, at the Persuasion of my Guide, went along with them; but we had all Night a cold Rain, and I suffer'd much on Account of the Cold; at nine o'Clock, we got safe to *Urfa*.

Urfa is a large City about two Hours Journey in Circumference; the Inhabitants I reckon to be about half the Number of what they are at *Aleppo*. The Wall of the City goes over two Hills, on one of which it joins to a Castle; between these Hills in the Valley is a Spring, to which is dug a Canal of 300 Paces long, and 40 wide, along which one walks with Pleasure to see the Abundance of Fish, that feed upon the Bread which People fling to them. From this Place *Abraham* departed by God's Command, as from his own Land, and it is said to be the ancient City of *Edeffa*. The Letter, which the *Roman* Vassal-King is said to have wrote to Christ, is too well known to be inserted here: But as the Christians, in the Decay of Christianity, were very rich in
invent-

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inventing many Wonders and Tales, it is much doubted whether there is any Truth at all in this Story.

Nov. 25. We took a Ride out of the City, and my Guide carried me to a Place, where formerly stood an ancient Church; he told me, I knew not what, had happened at that Spot of Ground. That *Thara*, *Abraham's* Father, and his Posterity, lived once in this Country, is undeniable; but to pick out this or that very Place, where either one Thing or another happened, is Folly; since it is well known, that the Fathers in those Days lived in Huts or Tents, and that they pitch'd them sometimes in one Place, and sometimes in another, according as they had Occasion for Pasture for their Flocks; and this Method the *Arabs*, who are Descendants of *Abraham*, observe to this very Day.

The *Armenians* had in this City a Church, and a numerous Congregation; without the City they had likewise a Convent, where they shew many Relics of Bones and other Matters, for which I had no Regard, my Faith being built on a more sure Foundation.

Having been here for fourteen Days, I return'd the same Way I came back, and arrived *Nov. 20th* at *Aleppo*.

Aleppo

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Aleppo is a large populous City, and may, on Account of its Inhabitants, be nearly compared to *Hamburg*; it is, next to *Constantinople* and *Cairo*, reckon'd to be the largest in the *Ottoman Empire*. The Walls about it were formerly strong, but are now much gone to Ruin, and in one Place they are built in with the Suburbs: In the Centre of the City is a Hill, in Shape like a Sugar-Loaf, whereon is built a Castle, which is reckon'd to be pretty strong. Here is the Staple for the Merchandizes which come from *Persia*, and which go thither from all Parts of *Turkey*: There are likewise divers other Commodities brought thither from the *East-Indies*, by Caravans, which again carry other Things thither: Here are also several rich Manufactures of Silk and Cotton-Weaving. This City is situated near a small River, along the Banks whereof are nothing but Gardens, which are water'd thereby; from them the City is supplied with Kitchen Herbs and Fruit in great Plenty; besides these, there are other Gardens at the Descent, which abound with Vines, Olives, Pomgranates, and Almond-Trees, which stand all Summer long without Rain; but they being planted towards the Bottom of the Ascent, they are often water'd from the Springs that flow down.

down the Hill; for a-top of the Hill no Tree is to be seen.

It cannot be denied but that *Aleppo* rose after the Fall and Decay of *Antiochia*; the former being more conveniently situated for Trade, having a River, and being situated near the Sea; there is likewise a fruitful District along the Banks of the River; these, and several other Reasons are found in the Descriptions of these Places, but I think, that God's Judgment in punishing the crying Sins in a City has a great Share in the Destruction of them.

In large *Turkish* Cities, the foreign Merchants reside in one Place; they have one or more Camps or Squares, which they can lock up over-night: Thus here in *Aleppo* the *Persians* and *Armenians* have a fine large Square, surrounded by Houses two Stories high; the Apartments serve both for Bed-chambers and Shops. In small Cities there are likewise several Camps to lodge Strangers: And because no Traveller carries his Wife with him, there are no Women to be seen at such Places; however, this is not to be understood of Places which abound with Christian Inhabitants. An Opinion prevails with some Authors, as if the *Turkish* Dominions in general were two to one more inhabited by Christians than Mahometans; but

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but this must certainly be a Mistake: In the Countries I have mentioned in this Account, perhaps it may be so in many Places, but when we come to *Asia* and *Africa*, we shall find great Odds, except it be in *Armenia*. There are many large Provinces, whereof in the Country Towns not one Christian is to be seen, except some few in large trading Cities, where they are no more numerous, than, in Comparison, the Jews are in the *European* Cities: Wherefore, I think, I am nearer the Mark, if I turn the Table, and say, that there are two Parts of Mahometans to one of Christians in the *Turkish* Empire.

Sept. 19. We had the first Harvest Rain, which was here reckon'd early; for most commonly it begins in the Middle or the latter End of *October*.

The 25th of *Sept.* we had an Earthquake, which shook the Houses, but did no considerable Damage; it was the first I ever felt.

It is something peculiar to those warm Countries, that the Tails of Sheep are of a monstrous Size, and very fat, weighing commonly five or six Pound, or more, according to the Pasture they feed in. So long as such Fat doth not exceed the Weight of eight or ten Pound, the Tail hangs like

a round Ball, and in walking beats from one Leg to the other; but when it grows much larger it hangs like a Covering, and can hardly be distinguished from the hind Part of the Legs. In *Aleppo* I have daily seen some Carcases of Sheep hung up in their Basars, or Markets, whose Tails could not weigh less than twenty or thirty Pound: However, we must not imagine, that the greatest Part of the Sheep of this Country are the same; for in large Cities, the best of Commodities are brought to Market, because they fetch them the best Price. I remember to have read in a Description of the *Cape of Good Hope*, that the Sheep there have such large Tails, that they are not able to carry them; for which Reason they have little Waggons, with two or four Wheels, for that Purpose. I am apt to think, that the Author might possibly have seen one or two of such Sheep with little Wheel-Carriages at their Tails, either in the Streets of the *Dutch* Towns, or in the Gardens, for Curiosity Sake; for which Purpose they no Doubt look'd for the largest and fattest they could find. Most Travellers launch out to Excess, to raise the Reader's Admiration; and several modern Writers will have it, that all the Sheep in the Eastern Countries carry their Tails
in

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in a Wheel-Carriage : But the Thing contradicts itself ; for let any one but consider, how it is possible, that a Flock of Sheep, or only the third Part of one, should carry a Waggon behind them, when these Countries are full of Rocks, Stones, Briars and Brambles ; what Work would this occasion to the Shepherds ? I have seen innumerable Flocks of Sheep in these Countries, but not one that carried its Tail on a Waggon : It is just as if a *Chinese* should come to *Amsterdam*, and having seen Goats and Dogs harness'd in Chaises or Chariots, to draw Children along on the even Pavements thro' the Streets of the City, he at his Return to his own Country should write in his Travels, that in *Europe* the Goats and Dogs were employed in Wheel-Carriages in general, to carry both Men and Goods from one Place to another.

Having in my Travels through a good Part of *Phœnicia* and *Syria*, which I performed in the Month of *May* to *September*, observed, how the Land in that dry Season was burnt up, so that in many Places I could not see one single Pile of Grass, I concluded that such Countries were far happier, which, under the temperate Zone, in the Summer Season, have the Advantage to be water'd with refreshing Showers of Rain.

But

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But after I was a little better acquainted with the Produce of that Country, I found it had Plenty of all Manner of Necessaries of Life. It abounds with all Sorts of Grain, as Wheat, Barley, Oats, Pulse and Rice; Rye is a Grain for colder Climates, of which several Countries in *Europe* produce little or more; and I am credibly inform'd, that in warm Countries, it changes its Nature, and turns into Wheat, after it has been sown for some Time one after another. Their Harvest they have in less Time than in *Europe*: They sow their Corn in *November* and *December*; in *April* and *May* all is ripe.

They have less Trouble in manuring their Lands than the *Europeans*, the Earth not being so hard to be work'd, which is owing to the Heat of the Sun; there being no Rain all Summer long, nor hard Frosts or Snows in the Winter to draw the Ground together. They frequently make Use of wooden Ploughs, their Wood being as hard as Iron.

In getting in their Harvest they have the Advantage of not being necessitated, as in several Parts of *Europe*, to carry their Corn out of the Field to dry in rainy Weather. When the rainy Season is over, the Corn grows quite ripe, after which, it either
stands

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stands longer, or is cut down, and being laid in a Circle in the Field, it is trod by Oxen ; this takes off a great deal of Labour from the Peasants : They carry nothing home but the Corn. The Straw, which, in a Manner is trod to Chaff, is put up in the Field, to feed the Cattle, till the Return of the rainy Season. They save a deal of Labour by their Fields not being dunged, any otherwise than by the Cattle that's kept upon them ; and in many Places they gather Cow and Camel's Dung for Fireing.

Before Winter, or the rainy Season, they have no Occasion to lay by any Thing for their Cattle ; for then the Grass grows in great Plenty, and all Summer long they feed on what grew in the rainy Season, and is now dry'd up like Hay : The Goats feed on the Bushes and Shrubs upon the Hills.

No Waggon are used in these Countries, every Thing being carried by Asses and Camels ; the Horses are only used for riding.

Although the Fields in Summer lie desolate ; yet in such Grounds, where there are Springs, Rivers or Wells, they make great Advantage by Labour and Industry ; for of whatsoever they sow, they have a good Crop ; they have Kitchen Greens and other Herbs likewise in great Plenty.

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There is all the Year round some Fruit or other ripe ; in the Spring, Cherries, yellow Plumbs, Apricots, Apples, Pears, Mulberries and Figs : After these come in Season, Nuts, Pomgranates, Almonds and Grapes, which last may be eat fresh for six Months together ; they ripen soon, for in some Places they are fit to be eat in the latter End of *July*, and from that Time they are left on the Vines to the Months of *November* and *December* ; after this, they will keep for ten or twelve Months fresh, when housed. Of what great Benefit Olives are to this Country, is well known to all the World.

Besides Flax and Hèmp, they have also a Silk Manufactory in these Countries, as likewise one of Cotton, which grows here in great Plenty. This Plant has frequently been described as a Tree ; but it is planted like Cabbage, Potatoes, or other Plants, at about a Foot and an half Distance from one another ; this is done towards Harvest Time, when the Rain begins ; all the rainy Season, whilst young, it makes a beautiful Appearance ; it has a fine red Stalk, and green Leaves ; in *May* it blossoms, with a yellow Flower ; after this, it bears a green Nut, first the Size of a Hazle, then that of a Walnut, in which the Cotton is inclosed ;
this

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this Shell opens in the great Heat, and the Cotton-Wool is gathered in *August* and *September*: So that the Plant and Fruit stand near a whole Year in the Fields: The Shrub at last grows three Foot high, and spreads itself with its Branches: The Stalk below grows a Finger thick, and by the Heat of the Sun, as solid as Wood; the Seed, in the Shape of the Kernel of a Pear, is found frequently in the Cotton, which is brought to *Europe*; when this Seed is cut asunder, there is an oily Kernel, almost like Hemp-Seed. The Cotton is sowed every where throughout *Syria*, and other Countries, in large Fields, and by the Inhabitants themselves very much manufactured in Callicoes, &c. of which great Quantities are sent to *Europe*.

I have in several Places seen Bakers make use of Oxen and Camels Dung to heat their Ovens; not on Account of the Scarcity of Wood, which is plentier here than in *Egypt* and several Desarts of *Arabia*; but it is more convenient, and answers their Purpose better: Their Baking of Bread is nothing more than the baking of Pancakes is with us, for which Purpose they have a Copper Plate, bigger or lesser, which is fixed up between Bricks, and underneath is a Hollow where they make a Fire,

for which the above Dung is very fit, it being dried to a Cinder by the Sun, and then it burns like Charcoal: The Cakes are about the Size of a common Plate, and about an Inch thick.

In *Germany* the common Notion prevails, that *Turkey* Coffee, which is reckon'd the best, is brought from the *Levant* and the *Mediterranean*, but this is a Mistake; for if so, it must be imported thither from *Alexandria*, and I know by Experience, that I have paid almost twice as much for a Pound of Coffee at *Alexandria* as I did at *Amsterdam* or *Hamburg*; the Reason must be, that the *Turkish* Coffee is brought a great Way by Land from *Turkey* before it comes to *Alexandria*; and in *Aleppo*, I was told, that City, not long since, made Complaints to the Bashaw, that the *French* imported bad Coffee thither, namely, that which they have from the *West-Indies*, so that none good was to be had. The Bashaw heard their Petition, and prohibited the Import of it; but the *French* Merchants, together with the *Turkish* Dealers, having collected among themselves a Present to bribe the Bashaw, the Prohibition was taken off, and now the People persuade themselves that the *French* Coffee in that Place is better than what it had been before. I afterwards

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wards was informed at *Cyprus*, that the *French* import great Quantities of it to all the Sea-Ports of the *Mediterranean*, from whence it is sent farther abroad in other Parts of the World as *Turkish* Coffee.

As Wine and other intoxicating Liquors are forbid, the general Drink, among rich and poor, is Water, which keeps the *Mahometans* from many Distempers, which the *Europeans* bring upon themselves by too much drinking of strong Liquors.

Nov. the 25th, there arrived a large Caravan from *Bassora*, or *Bazra*, at *Alep-po*. I was invited by my Friend to go and see its Entrance. I went with him on Horseback, and got without the City, where I had a full View of their March into it. They told me, this Caravan consisted of 6 or 8000 Camels, but, according to my Conjecture, there was not half that Number: In their March I saw but few Horses, and no Mules or Asses; it seems they cannot subsist so long without Water as the former, of which there is frequently great Scarcity in the Desarts of *Arabia*: With this Caravan arrived here four *Frenchmen*, two *Englishmen*, and seven Fathers, Missionaries from several Parts of *East-India*. This Caravan comes once a Year, and brings *Indian* Commodities; after three or four Months it returns again,

and carries Merchandizes from *Aleppo* to the *East-Indies*.

Dec. 10. I was in a *Turkish* Convent, belonging to the Dervises, a Sect instituted by *Mibiliby*; they turn themselves round, pretending thereby to be in a Trance, and to have received Spiritual Impulses and Revelations; such Turning is kept up as a Point of their Religious Ceremonies, which they perform every *Thursday* in publick, when every one has Liberty to see them, and give what Alms they please: First they perform'd their Prayer, which Duty, as *Musselmens*, every one observes daily, either in the Mosques, or at home: After which, their Prior came, and made a Speech, and then they began to turn themselves; four came in their proper Habits out of a Chamber, who first made a profound and reverend Bow towards the Prior; then each went to one Corner of the Mosque, and turned himself; then they join'd as it were in a Dance, turning at first slow, then by Degrees faster, till at last, their Turning was so swift as not to be perceivable: Sometimes they extended their Arms, sometimes they put them on their Hips, and at other times they put them a-cross their Breasts. This Dance was attended with a Wind-Instrument, like a Hautboy and a Tabor: It is certain,

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certain, that such a Dance on the Stage would give the Spectators some Pleasure, if it were well perform'd.

Dec. 19th, was here the first frosty Night of the Winter-Season, which held four Weeks successively; the Ice was frequently strong enough to bear a Man to walk over a Puddle before Sun-rising, but as soon as the Sun was above the Horizon, it thaw'd directly. The Wind and Air were more piercing and cold than in this Climate I could have expected: The Reason whereof may be, this Country's lying very high from the Sea; for in the Low-Countries, like *Cyprus*, the Air is much warmer.

Jan. 18, 1738. A Caravan went from hence to *Mecha*. All that intended to go a Pilgrimage to that Place, came and met at *Aleppo*, from all Parts of the neighbouring Countries, viz. *Asia Minor*, *Trabesond*, the Districts about the *Euphrates*, &c. This Caravan goes to *Damascus*, where it is join'd by all that come from the *European Turkey*, and the *Apehipelago* by Shipping. Then in their March, they meet a third Caravan from the whole *Turkish Empire*, and all the Coasts of *Arabia*, which is the largest of the three; and then they proceed together for *Mecha* and *Medina*. From *Persia* comes another, which makes the fourth, and one

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from the *East-Indies*, which meets at *Bossora*, and makes the fifth. The *Mahometans* are utter Enemies to all superstitious and idolatrous Worship, as Images, Thurifying, Blessing with Crosses, and of all such idle Ceremonies, which the Christians, in *Mahomet's* Time, had already introduced. I presume they keep up the Pilgrimage to *Mecha*, from the Example of the Christians and Pagans, though it was not instituted by *Mahomet* himself as an incumbent religious Duty. In such a View, it is an abominable Idolatry, both among the Christians, Pagans, and Mahometans. The first Rise of this Pilgrimage to *Mecha* was very likely this: *Omar*, who was the second Successor to *Mahomet*, was the first that went to visit his Predecessor's Grave once every Year. This *Omar*, having taken *Jerusalem*, chose that City for some Time, as his Residence: He disturbed the Christians on no Account, nay, he desired the Patriarch to direct him to a Place where he might build a Mosque, who pointed him out that where formerly stood the Temple of *Solomon*. He himself shew'd some Reverence and Devotion to the pretended Holy Grave of our Saviour; and as the Mahometans were not quite freed, particularly in this Point, from the Christian Idolatry, it is no Wonder that
the

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the Example of visiting the Grave of Christ gave them a Precept to follow it in visiting that of their Prophet *Mahomet*.

C H A P. X.

A Summary Account of a Journey of Charles XI. King of Sweden; as also another of Mathematicians, sent by him into Lapland.

NO Mathematician is ignorant, that those who live about 65 Degrees North have their whole Day in the Summer Solstice of 24 Hours; or that at that Time the Sun doth not set before the 66th Degree be compleated. But there are but very few who have this Knowledge from ocular Demonstration; consequently, altho' the Inhabitants of the Country should assert this to be true, yet they would gain little Credit from such as only urge natural Causes; besides, the Disagreement of the Relaters increases the Doubts of the Incredulous, since the Vulgar commonly mix incredible Things with Truths. This was the Reason that moved *Charles XI. King of Sweden*, in the Year 1694, to be an Eye-witness of what was the common Report of the Peo-

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ple, and to see whether there were really such Places where the Sun is not seen to set: He therefore made a Journey to the City *Torneo*, in the *Western Bothnia*, about 65 Deg. and 43 Min. of Latitude; the Horizon there was at his Arrival hinder'd by Mountains and Woods, so that the Truth of this Matter could scarcely be discovered upon the plain Ground; wherefore, this Monarch, not regarding a little Fatigue, or Difficulty, got up (by the Help of Ladders) a little Tower, which was about 100 Foot high, on which the Bells of the Church of the City are hung, accompanied by some eminent Persons, as Witnesses of this Observation, which he made the 14th of *June*, until eleven o'Clock 53 Minutes at Night; at which Time a little Cloud covering the Sun by little and little, it disappeared; but at twelve o'Clock 6 Minutes, the Sun passing again out of the small Cloud, shone out very bright; whence it is certain, that it did not set in the mean time, but the Cloud was the only Cause why it was not discerned all that Night; the Experience of the Inhabitants confirmed it, who always at that Time of the Year, when the Weather is clear, used to see the Sun all Night long. The King himself put down this Observation, with his
own

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own Hand, into his Table-Book. And after having made this Observation, and taken a View of these Countries, he returned with all Speed to his Residence at *Stockholm*.

The King, in order to have a more accurate Observation, sent the Year following, 1695, several Mathematicians thither; and appointed, among the rest, *John Bilbery* and *Andrew Spole*, Professors of the Mathematicks at the University of *Upsal*, to undertake that Journey, which accordingly they did, and at their Return obliged the World with the following Account.

We departed from *Upsal* the 21st Day of *May*, Old Stile, and with great Difficulty pass'd through *Upland*, *Gestricland*, *Holsingland*, *Medelpadia*, *Angirmaraland*, and *West Bothnia*, being, for the most Part, in these last Countries, detained by Ice and Snow, especially in passing over Rivers and Creeks of the Sea, which are there in great Plenty, and sometimes 1000 Paces over; in which not only the Rapidity of the Stream, and Fierceness of the Winds, but also the Ferry-Boats are to be well minded, lest they be forced asunder and demolish'd; for two Boats are placed at a certain Distance from each other, and tied together like a Ponton, which holds a Chariot with two
Horses,

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Horses, the Fore-wheels rest upon one Boat, and the Hind-wheels on the other, the Oars being fitted on both Sides. Being landed, we found the Ground, even in the High-way, very slippery, and the Horses and Chariots stuck in the Mud, which created us a great deal of Trouble and Fatigue. At this Season, in the Creeks, the Shore was cover'd with Frost and Ice; and many Pine Trees being cut down, represented more a Winter than a Summer Season. At length, on the 6th of *June*, we arrived safe at *Torneo*, after a most hazardous Journey, in Chariots, Boats, on Horseback, and on Foot.

The City *Torneo* is situated by the River of the same Name, which has its Source in *Lapland*. It is a very pleasant Place; the River makes it an Island, by parting itself into two Arms, and closing again, discharges itself into the Sea; from this River the City had its Name, at the Time of its building in the Year 1620: Before that Time it was inhabited by People who dwell some Furlongs towards the South, where is still a Stone Church, and one of Wood, very curiously built.

This City trades chiefly with the *Finns* and *Laplanders*, whose Language the Citizens understand: In Winter they travel

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on Sledges, drawn by Rein-deers; they carry Merchandise along with them, for which they receive others from the *Laplanders* of equal Value. They have a considerable Commerce with the *Muscovites*, who yearly sell their Goods to them, at very reasonable Rates.

The same Evening we came to *Torneo*, we observed the Sun above the Horizon; we noted the Time by a most exact Clock, which shew'd Minutes and Seconds; by this, at 11 h. 15', 45'', the Sun was hid in a little Cloud, and appear'd that Night no more to us.

On the 7th of *June*, we found the Meridian Height to be $47^{\circ}. 48'$. On the 8th, $47^{\circ}. 49'$. The 9th, it was cloudy. On the 10th, it was $47^{\circ}. 50'$. From which repeated Observations, and another at our Return made in the same Place, on the 18th of *June*, when the Sun's Meridian Height had decreased to $47^{\circ}. 45'$. we gather'd, by an Astronomical Calculation, that the Elevation of the Pole in this City is not so much as is laid down by some Geographers, it being but $65^{\circ}. 43'$.

But to return again to our Sun, which we were come to see shine all Night: It was some Time before we could make our Observation, the Sky being always fill'd with

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with Clouds; but at length, in the Night between the 10th and 11th of *June*, the Clouds dispersed, and we had the first Opportunity to enjoy a clear Night; we saw almost four Parts of the Sun's Disk above the Horizon: So that the Center thereof really appeared above it. We therefore congratulated each other on this Occasion, and on being Eye-witnesses of what heretofore we had only by Report.

In our Observation, we used the same Turret which was made use of by his Majesty: But lest any one might think, that the Height thereof was the Reason why so much of the Sun was discerned, we chose a Place some Paces distant from thence, where was a free Prospect from the North Quarter; there we found the Appearance to be no other than from the Turret; being satisfied with this clear Observation, when the Sun was so few Hours from the Solstice, which on the following Day, *June* 12th, by an Astronomical Calculation, fell out 9 h. 39 min. before Noon. Now we thought it our Business to prosecute our Journey farther North, to look out for a Place, where, abating the Refraction, the whole Disk of the Sun might be discerned.

We ventured into Boats very slenderly fastened together; for from *Torneo* farther North,

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North, there is no more Use of Chariots or Horses: Wherefore, quitting our Journey by Land, we had Recourse to Pilots, whose Language we understood nothing of, and entering into their Boats, we were obliged to work hard with Poles. Thus our Ferry-men passed along the Banks of this rocky River, and in some Places, with their most vigorous Strength and Endeavours, seem'd scarcely to advance a Foot forward; sometimes by long Windings and Turnings of the River they were forced to go ashore, and hale their Boats along the Violence of the Waves; on the Bank Side there was hardly Room between the Thorns, Brambles, and Heaps of Stone, to set their Feet: Being wearied with the Fatigue of this haling, we attempted to make our Journey a-foot, and by that Means to make the Boats somewhat lighter for the Pilots. But as an Addition to these our Troubles, Mountains of Ice of twenty Cubits and more, being driven together by the Force of the Waters, cover'd both Sides of the River; they were so bending and craggy, that every Moment we dreaded their Fall, and our total Ruin and Destruction; but if any where it happened, that the Course of these Mountains of Ice was interrupted, we joyfully leap'd ashore, inspecting

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inspecting the Nature of the Country, in which, to our Admiration, we found, amongst great Heaps of Snow and Ice, green Herbs and Flowers, particularly great Plenty of Lillies of the Valleys.

Amidst these Productions of Nature, we look'd for Men ; at length, we found a few Houses belonging to the *Finns* ; these People conducted us to a certain Village, which in their Language they call'd *Pello*. 'Tis said to be ten Miles distant from the City *Torneo* ; there is an Inn, in which we might lie on Rein-deer's Skins, for they make Use of no Feather-Beds. But however, among all the Inconveniencies, this was our Comfort, that in the said Place, neither Mountains nor Woods hindered our Prospect from the Northern Horizon, whereby the Sun might be interrupted from our Sight, and it was, by God's Providence, that same Night, the Sky was free from Clouds, although in our whole Journey it was always unsettled and lowering : It was here that we observed with Pleasure the whole Disk of the Sun not only intire, but two Diameters of its Body elevated ; and when we had sufficiently made our Observations in this Place, we with no less Difficulty perform'd the rest of our Journey ; and on the 14th of *June*, we arrived at the Iron and Copper
Mines

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Mines of *Kengis*. That Night likewise favour'd our Purpose, and we saw the Sun from our Boats on the River, three Diameters of its Body above the Horizon.

The Situation of this Place is between two Rivers; that on the Left is excluded from the Western Side, and the Lake *Torne*, situate almost on the Confines of *Norway*. This River has here a large Cataract from the Mountains and broken Rocks of 36 Foot high, with an extraordinary shocking Noise, and vehement Impetuosity; however, it gives an excellent Advantage to the Works of the Mines.

On the 15th Day, we had very turbulent Winds and extreme cold Weather; we took the Height of the Sun among the interspersed Clouds, with an Astrolabe; and found the Latitude of the Place to be scarcely more than $66^{\circ}.45'$. although the Sun in the Night-Time shewed itself largely above the Horizon, and made the Day long enough, with an ample Circuit. Here, when we purposed to go farther into *Lapland*, by the right Branch of the River, which seems to lead streight North, the Inhabitants declared, that it was not in the Power of Man to perform that Journey in Summer; for that ought to be made in Winter: The Left Side, though it was
open

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open for Boats, yet it seemed to us to incline too much West, on which Account we could not proceed one Degree farther; and as we had already found what was sufficient for the Lovers of Astronomy, and considering the Limits of our Time, we resolved to take our Course homeward.

At our Departure, we had the Sight of a great Quantity of Metals, which with great Care are drawn out of the Metal Mines in *Lapland*; they are rich in Copper and Iron, and yet not work'd without great Expence to the Proprietors, and Danger of the Workmen by the falling of the Waters.

Some Pieces of Loadstone were presented to us, taken out of the same Iron Mines, which we carried home with us. The Loadstones there are of little Force; yet one of them, which I still keep, I perceive daily increases its attractive Power.

Loadstones are found in the Iron Mines of *Sweden*, and elsewhere; but those in *Lapland* excel in Force all that ever I had the Opportunity to meet with. I pass by other Things, which we either saw, or were told of, lest I should seem to give a History of the People, which others have done before me. Being got into our Boats, we did not with our Poles follow the Course
of

ENTERTAINMENT. 67

of the Shore, as we had done coming, but kept in the Middle of the River, where it was most rapid; the Watermen doubling their Strokes, we strove at least to emulate, if not to out-do the Swiftness of the Waters; this was absolutely necessary, lest the Impetuosity being swifter than the Boat's Course, should fill it with Water, and so drown it with its Waves; especially, when they are roll'd with great Violence among the Rocks, Whirl-pools, and Gulphs.

Our Safety depended, next to God, on our Pilots; for they steered with that Skill among the covered Shoals, that we were amazed. And when we were delivered from Danger, we could hardly believe ourselves to be in Safety; but their Dexterity and Art appeared to be attended with more Care in one Place than another. Those that are more experienced in this Voyage will aver, that there are some Precipices in this River, where a Boat is tossed in the Air several Feet high, the Pilot steering it in the same Manner, until it is again in the Water.

This River, from *Kengis* to the City *Torneo*, flows with one continued Channel, and receives 29 Rivers, one of which makes a whole *Swedish* Mile in Breadth; the others being less compensate for their Smallness by
their

their Rapidity: Neither can they be cross'd at any Time, except by the most able Watermen of the Place. In one of the Rivers, although the Passengers are expert, yet they will hire one of the Inhabitants to be their Pilot, who will for two Farthings only hazard their Lives, as we have frequently beheld from on Shore with Horror; but Necessity imposed that Law on them, for it is the King's Highway, and the only one to go into *Lapland* in the Summer Season. The Inhabitants who dwell near the River Side, as they live for the most Part by catching of Fish, never dwell in any other Place; for beyond the Shore, for a long Tract, all the Lands are uncultivated and horrid; they are contented with little Ground; wherever they find a Piece fit to be sowed, they do not plow it with Oxen or Horses, but dig it with Spades, and temper the Soil by the Labour of their Hands.

In our Return, by a swift Course, we came from *Kengis* to *Torneo*, a Voyage of sixteen Miles, in less than a Day and a half's Time. There we immediately observed the diurnal and nocturnal Sun, trying whether the Observations again made did agree with the former; but because it was many Days after the Solstice, this After-Care was of little Advantage. Having therefore
once

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once observed the Meridian Altitude of the Sun on the 18th of that Month, we perceived it to be $47^{\circ}.45'$. and yet, from the Declination of that Time, gave the same Elevation of the Pole with our former Observations.

In the frigid Zone, and it's Neighbourhood, the Stay of the Sun above the Horizon brings this Advantage to the Inhabitants, that the Corn in those Places ripens in a short Time; for as we have heard from the Husbandmen, in fertile and fruitful Years, not above six or seven Weeks are required among them, from the Time of sowing their Corn until Harvest; we made no Difficulty to suffer ourselves to be persuaded of it, when the first sowing, as we went, was in the City *Torneo*; the Barley sown in the Beginning of *June* was, the 16th Day of the same Month, grown beyond Expectation; and the Grass, which as we pass'd by some Places of *Western Bothnia*, in the Beginning of *June*, had scarcely come out of the Stalk, at our Return, after four Weeks, was mowed. But this Advantage is attended by another Disadvantage; for the Corn is liable to much Danger from the Cold, in this so short Space of Time; if it do but happen about the Time when it ripens, or when they hope it should ripen,

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ripen, that the Dew or Frost falls upon it in the Morning, it hurts the Grain, and wholly destroys it; to prevent which Mischief, sometimes they cut the Corn before it is quite ripe.

Here is one Thing which I would observe; the Nature of these Northern Countries is not altogether to be stated from the Inclemency of the Season of that Year we were there, for that exceeded all others past in the Memory of Man, for the Severity of it: There were very old People in those Places, some upwards of an hundred Years, but not one was found among them who could remember to have heard Thunder before, which now seemed to presage something very unlucky.

As to what concerns the Islands of the *Bothnick* Sea, they underwent a more severe Fate; for as we went from *Torneo* to *Calix*, in our Voyage on the 19th of *June*, at our Arrival at some little Islands, we there perceived the Soil was not yet freed from the Cold, nor did the Birch-Trees, which are very numerous in that Place, shew any Sign of Greenness, when on the Continent they abounded with full grown Leaves.

At Night between the 19th and 20th Day, we saw the Sun setting at *Calix* at eleven

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eleven o'Clock and twelve Minutes, tho' the horizontal Plane, by reason of that unequal Part, in which it looks to the North, scarcely permitted us to determine its true setting. We try'd the next Day to take the Height of the Sun ; but this Hope vanished among the Clouds. As much as we can reasonably judge from our Journey, and the Sun's setting, the Latitude of that Place can differ but little from *Torneo*, since the Church in *Calix*, where the Observation was taken, seems to be situate directly to the Westward of it.

On the 21st, we arrived at the old Town of *Lublea* ; that Place was founded in the Year 1622, where yet stands an old Church, yielding to none in that Country for Structure and Largeness ; but for a more convenient Situation, *New Lublea* was built nearer to the Sea, in the Year 1642 ; but by the Carelessness of the *Laplanders*, who were kindling a Fire in the neighbouring Wood, five Years after, it was burnt down ; nor was it rebuilt more fortunate ; for in the Year 1653, it was again ruin'd by an accidental Fire, and from the Ruins thereof it became such a Place as we found it.

On the 24th, we came to the old City *Bithea*, which was built in the Year 1621, but it being casually reduced to Ashes by
Fire,

Fire, in the Year 1666, the rebuilding of it was for some Time deferr'd, until some fresh Privileges and Immunities were granted by his Majesty. The new City then beginning to be built, is distant half a Mile from the old, being situated nearer to the Sea, for a more convenient Port, and Convenience of exporting Merchandizes.

The next Day we arrived at *Skelesta*.

The 26th and 27th, we staid at *Bygde*, which seems to be the most ancient of all the Churches of the *Norlands*, provided the Inscription which appears in the Front of it be genuine, 1169. But the Chronicle of those Times takes away the Doubt, which clearly shews, that it was founded under the Reign of St. *Eric*, at which Time religious Worship, although infected with Popery, made an extraordinary Progress; and besides, there was the Picture of a certain religious Person, which was placed in a Wood half a Mile and more distant from thence, where formerly those who were remote from the Church, are said to have met together to Prayers on Holy-Days.

On the 28th, we came to *Ukma*. This City is situated in a more convenient Place towards the Sea, and is the chieftest of *Western Bothnia*, in which also is the Seat of the Governor of that Province; its Latitude is $63^{\circ}. 48'$. On

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On the 29th, leaving that Place, we went through the Borders of the *Western Bothnia*, which, though more North, yet has a better Soil than the Counties towards the South, which abound in Mountains. The Mountain *Scula* in *Angermannia* is the most famous, on Account of its being very craggy and broken, and threatens Ruin and Destruction to all who pass by it, it being near the Highway. Their only chief City is *Hernosand*, which has a most convenient Harbour: It is situated in the Island, where the Seat of the Super-Intendant is; as also the Royal School, and Seminary of the Youths of the North. We staid there three Days.

On the 7th of *July*, we came to the Town of *Medelpadia*.

On the 10th we arrived at the City *Helsingland*.

On the 11th, at *Soderhamn*, where is a famous Armoury. From thence we went by a crooked Way to the Copper and Iron Mines.

On the 13th, we entered *Dalecarle*, or the mountainous Country; going thro' *Dalecarleon Swerdsio*, whose Church was first beautified with a Monument of a gilded Crown, by King *Gustavus* of glorious Memory. Some Antiquities were produced

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here by the Inhabitants ; the Reality whereof we much questioned, and therefore shall omit inserting them.

On the 14th, we came to the City *Fab-lun*, eminent for being the Seat of the Governor of that Country ; and especially for having the richest Copper Mines, of so great Antiquity, that the Original of it is very uncertain and doubtful.

After that, designing to bring our Journey to an End, we passed the several Cities of *Westmanland* and *Hedenore*, both well known for their Merchandize, Agriculture and Fairs ; *Afwestafors*, famous for Copper Mines of several Sorts, and coining of Money ; and from thence to *Soleburg*, a very noble Place, and celebrated for its ancient and rich Mines of Silver.

We returned happily to *Upsal* on the 24th of *July*, the Situation and Antiquities of which City being described by others, are well known to most People : Its Latitude is $59^{\circ}.32'$.

Because we were informed at our Return, that the King was at *Kongfor*, to review his Army, we thought fit to wait on his Majesty there : and setting our Affairs in order in two Days, on the 27th we passed through *Enecopia* in *Upland*, and the Cities of *Arosia*, *Koping* and *Westmanland*.

On

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On the 28th, we came to *Kongfor*, in that pleasant Country of *Sudermanland*, situate by a most pleasant River, which empties itself into the Lake *Galtem*, and *Mala-ren*; its Latitude is $59^{\circ}. 34'$.

His Majesty received us at our coming with a singular Clemency; and as we gave him the Account of the demanded Expedition, he hearken'd to us with great Attention: The Hereditary Prince, and some of the King's Council, and Ministers of State being present, he inquired much about our Demonstrations; and would have the Reasons of the most minute Matters laid before him in the plainest Manner: But we wonder'd at nothing more, than that his Majesty, though perplexed with infinite Cares of Government, should retain in Memory all the Things he saw or heard the Year before, in the Northern Countries; so that we, but just returning from those Parts, could not have a clearer Idea of Things, Events, Places, and Persons than he had.

The next Day, being graciously dismiss'd by his Majesty, we rejoiced to have obtained the Height of our Wishes, and that our slight Labour seem'd not to displease our Royal Master. Having dispatched this Business, we returned back again to *Upsal* the same Road we came. CHAP.

C H A P. XI.

*A Continuation of Mr. CORTEN'S Travels
from Aleppo to Scandaroon.*

FEB. 5th, having resided at *Aleppo* for five Months together, I set out from thence to *Scandaroon*, where an *English* Merchant-Man lay ready to sail for *London*, and in which I intended to go to *Cyprus*. The Surgeon belonging to that Ship accompanied me in my Journey thither, and we rode that Day eight Hours, then took a Night's Lodging in a Village.

Feb. the 6th, we had six Hours Ride, till we arrived at *Hiram*, a little Town. This Place is situated at the Foot of a Hill, where issued forth a large Spring, which with the Fall drove a large Corn Mill. The Water was something warm, and of a sweet Taste; On the Top of the Hill stood an ancient Castle, which in former Times had apparently been very strong.

Feb. 7. we rode from thence over a fine Meadow, and came about 11 o'Clock to the River *Orentes*; we pursued our Journey over a Plain, till 4 o'Clock, when we arrived safely at *Antiochia*.

Feb.

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Feb. 8. we set out from thence, and after eight Hours Journey over Hills and fruitful Vallies, arrived at a little Town, called *Beyland*, where we took up our Lodgings.

Feb. 9. we had yet two Hours Ride, all the Way down steep Hills to *Scandaroon*: This Place is situate on the Foot of a Mountain, near the Sea-shore. It has nothing material but the Harbour, where the Commodities from *Europe* are unloaded, and these Ships are again freighted with Merchandizes that are sent thither from *Aleppo*. The *English*, *French* and *Dutch* have Factories and Warehouses here for their Goods; and the Vice-Consul, who takes care of them: I believe there are above 150 Families settled in this Place, who for the most Part depend chiefly upon the *European* Ships that anchor in their Harbour. All the Way from *Aleppo* to *Scandaroon*, I did not see, besides these three Places already mentioned, where we lodged, above six or eight Herds, besides eight or nine Villages, which I could see at some Distance as we passed along, for twenty *German* Miles together; whence we may judge, how poorly these once flourishing Countries are now cultivated and inhabited.

On *Peter's Hill*, near the City of *Hall*, I have at once told above sixty Cities,

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Towns and Villages, and I am pretty well assured, that the fruitful Plains about *Antiochia* might contain as many; yet all the Ground lies waste, and I saw no more than three Villages in a whole Day's Journey.

Having waited at *Scandaroon*, from the 19th to the 21st of *February*, I spent my Time with walking along the Sea-shore, and in the Gardens. They shewed me at a certain Place near the Sea-side, two Pillars, which are called *Jonas's Pillars*; they say, that they were put up as a Monument on the Place where he was thrown on Shore out of the Whale's Belly: Adjoining to these Pillars, are several Ruderas, much over-grown with Bushes and Brambles; I am apt to believe, that formerly there stood either a Church, Convent or Castle.

Feb. 23. I went on Board the *English* Ship, in which I intended to go as far as *Cyprus*. The 26th we set sail; and the next Day we were in the middle of the Sea between the Continent and the Island, so that we were in Sight of Land on both Sides; and *April* the 1st, we came to Anchor, before *Cyprus*, at a Place called *Larnica*.

April the 2d, I got safe on Shore, and lodged in a *French* Ordinary. This was formerly the famous City *Salamine*, of which Mention is made in *Acts* xiii. There are still
fre-

frequently dug out of the same Ground fine Marble Stones; and but a little while since, they found a very fine Sepulchre. In one of the *Grecian* Convents, they shew the Grave or Sepulchre of *Lazarus*, in which he was buried the second Time; it is pretty much like the first, which is seen at *Bethlehem*, where he was raised from Death, and I am almost persuaded that this at *Cyprus* was copied after that at *Bethlehem*.

In a *Grecian* Church-yard, inclosed with a Wall, I saw many Graves, whereon were built little Huts with Boards, in each of which stood a burning Lamp, and a Vessel with Holy-Water to sprinkle the Grave therewith. Of what Benefit either of these Things are to the Dead, I cannot comprehend: However, I here called to mind the Words of the Apostle, *1 Cor. xv. 29. Else what shall they do, which are baptized for the Dead, if the Dead rise not at all? Why are they then baptized for the Dead?* For it was a Custom with some of the Primitive Christians, to be baptized over the Graves of their deceased Kindred or Friends, to intimate that, through the Power of the Resurrection of Christ from Death, they firmly believed likewise to be hereafter raised from the Dead.

Cyprus is a well-known Island, on Account

count of its warm Climate and fruitful Soil reckoned to be the most plentiful in the *Mediterranean*: It is not much above 100 Years since it was taken by the *Turks*, from the *Venetians*.

Before I leave the *Turkish* Dominions, I think it will not be improper to give a little Hint of what I was inform'd there of *Mahomet* and his Doctrine: The Time of his Birth, according to the *Turkish* Account, was in the Year 620; he lived in a Time when Christianity, especially in the East, was in the greatest Decay and Corruption; (most Writers agree, that in this Time *Anti-Christ* had mounted the Throne in the East, and that there was an irreconcilable Hatred between the Pope of *Constantinople* and the Pope of *Rome*, on Account of Pre-eminency.) It is uncertain, whether *Mahomet* was born at *Mecha* of Christian or Pagan Parents; the former is, by what I could learn, the most credible. They say, that in his younger Years he beheld the wretched State of Christianity with Indignation, and being fired with Zeal for the Honour of God, and the Re-establishment of true Religion, he at first withdrew himself from the Conversation of Men, retired in the Wilderness, and spent his Time in Contemplation, diving into Mysteries with such Atten-

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Attention, that his Life and Health was thereby weakened and endanger'd. At last, he brought his confus'd Thoughts into some Order, and returning from the Wilderness to *Mecha*, began to preach and instruct the People, and to shew them his Visions and Revelations, but with little Success; being scoffed at and ridiculed by the Multitude, he went back to the Wilderness, where they say an Angel instructed him; and in communicating to him some Laws, he likewise admonish'd him to return again to *Mecha*, which he did, having lived retired from all human Society for seven Years together in the Wilderness, saving the small Time that he made an Attempt of declaring his Mission at *Mecha*. He now saw the Confusion and Disorder that reign'd among People who pretended to be the Followers of Christ, that hardly any regarded his Precepts, but lived in Hatred, Debauchery, Drunkenness and Lasciviousness; Modesty, Sobriety, and all other Virtues were banished: He saw primitive Simplicity in Divine Worship come to Decay, by Idolatrous Institutions of Image-Worship, Thurifying, Candle-burning, Holy-Water, Lamps, Crossing, Sprinkling, some Pilgrimage, and Thousands of superstitious Ceremonies, in which they even out-did the Pagans themselves.

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Against these abominable Practices he preached, at his Return to *Mecha*, with an honest and becoming Zeal, and began to teach the People the true Way of Worship, by which he gain'd almost half the City for his Disciples and Followers: However, the rest of the Inhabitants opposed him; insomuch that he was obliged to fly from *Mecha* to *Medina*, where he got acquainted with a *Nestorian* Monk, who had lately been at *Constantinople*, from which Place he was banished, being accused of Heresy. This Man brought the Visions of *Mahomet* into some Order, dispersed Copies of them far and near, and proclaim'd his Character throughout the Land, wherever he could have an Opportunity. *Mahomet*, perhaps, acted with a pious honest Intent; but instead of diving into the Sense, Spirit, and Imitation of Christ, and to suffer Spite, Tribulation, and Persecution from one City to another, which he had met with on Account of his Mission, and to bear it with Meekness and Humility, in the Pursuit of the Work he had begun, he on the contrary suffered himself to be possess'd with a Spirit of Revenge; and when he was again attacked by his Opposers, who were ready enough to banish him from thence, he, with his Adherents, which were above half the Num-

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Number of the Inhabitants, Sword in Hand, compelled his Enemies at *Medina* to Submission, and having still great Interest among the Inhabitants at *Mecha*, he went thither, and subdued that City under his Power and Government.

We may, from the Commencement of this Time, consider *Mabomet* as a Law-giver, and a Reformer of the Eastern Church. I must own, I cannot agree with such Authors who represent *Mabomet* as an Impostor and designing Knave from the Beginning; and afterwards, when God was pleased to bless his Arms with Success, he no doubt believed himself to be sent from God, to punish the Christians on Account of their Idolatry; which was indeed Fact, as it is manifestly confirm'd in History. With this his Zeal, he inspected narrowly into the Abominations and Disorders of Christians.

Drunkenness, in his Time, was a prevailing Vice, by which a Door was open to all manner of Wickedness; *Mabomet* could see no other Remedy, nor had he learned any better in the School of Christ, than to prohibit all strong Liquors in general, by severe Laws and Penalties, which are to this Day strictly observed.

Adultery and Fornication were committed

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ted without Controul: *Mabomet* believed, that to remedy this Evil, there would be nothing more conducive than to allow a Plurality of Wives, but with a very severe Law against all Offenders: On which Account, Adultery is an unheard of, nay, almost impossible Crime there; on the contrary, the Christians at *Constantinople*, *Smyrna*, *Cyprus*, and other Places, where they have Liberty of Conscience, are become a Scandal to themselves, and an Offence to the *Mabometans*, on Account of their Drunkenness, Debauchery, and Fornication. However, I cannot but agree with such as ascribe to this Law, the Success *Mabomet* met with in making of Profelytes.

Mabomet, in order to gain Esteem, instituted a Law for Charity, by which the Poor are provided with all Necessaries of Life.

He prohibited the Cavillings and Disputes in Relation to Matters of Faith: He had observed, what Mischiefs the Differences of Christians had occasion'd among them; and although he could not prevent his Successors from dividing into different Sects, yet there is no condemning nor persecuting among them, as among Christians, because they believe there is no Sect damnable but that of *Ali*, profess'd by the *Persians*; but

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but this Condemnation may rather proceed from Reasons of State than any Thing else.

Mahomet likewise allowed Liberty of Conscience, and prohibited the persecuting of any one, on Account of his Faith, which contributed very considerably towards the extending of his Doctrine: Whence the *Greeks* rather chose to bear the Yoke of the *Turks* (since under that, they preserve their Religion) than be under a *Roman* Catholick Government, which is always ripe for Persecution.

I could add several more of the *Mahometan* Laws, Customs and Manners, but I think this sufficient, there being other Authors who have wrote at large of them, since the intended Compendiousness of this Journal will not allow it.

April 20. We sail'd in an *English* Vessel from *Cyprus* to *Venice*. We saw in our Passage the Island of *Patmos*. The 19th of *May*, on Account of contrary Winds, we cast Anchor near *Morea*: The 28th, we cast Anchor before *Ragusa*; and, *May* the 31st, we arrived safe, after a Passage of near two Months, at *Venice*, the Place where I set out for my Travels; but from that Day to *July 11*, I was obliged to perform Quarantine, when to my great Joy and Satisfaction,

Satisfaction, I was admitted into the City, having had my Health, by Divine Providence, from the Day I set-out, to the Day of my safe Return, without the least Disorder or Pain.

C H A P. XII.

A Continuation of Neitzschitz's Travels from Grand Cairo to Mount Sinai.

HAVING satisfied my Curiosity in viewing the most noted Places and Remains of Antiquity in *Egypt*, my Inclination was strongly bent to visit in my Travels the Country of *Arabia*, in order to take a View of *Mount Sinai*, and other remarkable Monuments of Antiquity in those Parts; and being inform'd, that a Caravan of 1000 *Moors* and *Arabs* was preparing to set out with 700 Camels, for *Mount Sinai*, to carry Wine, Oil, Flower, Olives, dry'd Fish, and other Lent Provisions to the Convents of that Place, I resolv'd not to lose so favourable an Opportunity, and having provided all Things necessary for that Journey, I set out from *Grand Cairo*, attended by a *Turk* I had hired to accompany me; he understanding, besides his Mother-Tongue,

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Tongue, the *Arabic*, *Greek* and *Italian* very well.

All the Way from *Grand Cairo* to *Mount Sinai* is over sandy Desarts; not one City, Town or Village is to be met with but that of *Sues*; nothing is seen but Sky, Sand and Rocks: The excessive Heat obliged us sometimes to halt, dismount, and take some Refreshment under Tents; and we made the best of our Way in the Morning, Evening, and at Night.

June 26. We pass'd by a Place, where, they say, *Alexander the Great* had caused a Spring to be dug 800 Foot deep, but to no Purpose. Towards Evening, we overtook the Caravan, which was marched before us, whilst we took some Refreshment, and saw the Method how the *Moors* baked their Bread when on this Journey.

They kindle several Fires upon the Sand to heat it; then they work, upon their rough, hairy, long Cloths, the Flower into a Dough; they form it into Cakes, about the Bigness of a Trencher, and about an Inch thick; then they cover them in the hot Sand, and in less than a Quarter of an Hour take them out, cleanse the Sand from them, and break them into small Pieces, hot as they are, into a wooden Bowl; after this they pour Oil and Vinegar upon them, stir it

it about with their Fingers, and eat it with a good Appetite.

The 27th, we travelled along a Ridge of high Rocks; we also pass'd by an old Castle, which is garrison'd by 150 *Moors* and *Turks*; it is also furnished with several Pieces of Cannon: This Garrison is kept on Purpose to protect the Caravans from the Insults of the wild *Arabs*. We got Sight of the *Red-Sea* that Morning, and about Noon we arrived at a Well, which is brick'd up square; near it lives a *Moor*, who draws Water out of it by the Help of Oxen, with which he not only serves the Caravans, but likewise the Town of *Sues*; however, the Water is a little brackish.

The Town of *Sues* is almost encompassed with the *Red-Sea*; it is very ancient, and has in former Ages been surrounded by a Brick-Wall, which is gone very much to Decay. The Houses are small, narrow, mean, and dark; the Streets are not paved, but covered with Sand.

Along the *Red-Sea*, we had some refreshing Breezes, which asswaged the extreme Heat of the Sun, and made our Journey very pleasant to what it had been. The Water seems to be of a reddish Colour, which no Doubt proceeds from its red sandy Bottom; for the clearer the Sun shines,

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shines, the redder will be the Surface thereof. This Sea is about three Days Journey from *Mount Sinai*.

The *Arabs*, in this Defart, are a wild, brutish, black, ill-favour'd People, who, for the most part, go naked, having only a Cloth about their Waist ; they carry a Sort of Lance for their Defence ; and Plunder and Rapine is their principal Subsistence.

June the 12th we arrived about Noon at the twelve Wells of *Moses*, which Place is about a Mile from the *Red-Sea*, and is said to be that where *Moses* kept the Passover with the Children of *Israel*: These Wells are at present quite run to Ruin ; two of them are still pretty deep Pools ; having caused the Surface of them to be cleansed, we provided ourselves with Water ; and, notwithstanding its being black and slimy, we were glad to have it to quench our Thirst, which was excessive great.

June 29th, being *Sunday*, we had still a View of the *Red-Sea* on the Right : We met with many very high Cliffs on both Sides, and arrived the 14th of *July* at a pleasant cool Cave, which went deep into a Rock, as though it had been cut by Art ; here we refresh'd ourselves, after the great Fatigue we had undergone from the scorching Heat of the Sun.

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In the Afternoon we broke up, and in our Way, we saw, upon our Right, the long Ridge of the Mountains of *Pbaran*, where are still seen the Ruins of the City and Castle of that Name.

July the 5th, we arrived at a Valley where *Moses* divided the Rock, for the Children of *Israel* to pass the nearest Way to *Mount Sinai*: We march'd between that Opening, and crossing another Valley, we went between surprising Cliffs, Rocks, and intricate Windings, till we arrived safe at the Convent, which lies at the Foot of *Mount Sinai*.

Having enter'd the Convent, I was received by the Friars thereof with Abundance of Civility and Friendship; they order'd my Camels and Baggage to be taken Care of, and conducted me to Chapel to perform my Devotion, and to return God Thanks for my safe Arrival; the meanwhile I sent to the Bishop to give him Notice of my Arrival, and to crave the Favour of an Audience from him, to which he readily consented.

Coming from Chapel, I was conducted into a large Apartment, where his Eminence was seated under a Canopy, surrounded by the Clergy, Monks and Friars belonging to that Convent; and having made my Obeisance,

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Obeifance, I caufed my Interpreter to deliver and explain the Reafons of my undertaking fo difficult and dangerous a Journey thither, which he did in *Greek*, and from that Language he explained the Bifhop's Answer to me in *Italian*. His Eminence feem'd to be highly pleafed, and ordered one of the Monks to bring me a Cordial, and a Plate full of Sweetmeats, for a Refreshment; and having returned Thanks for the Honour of this Admittance, I recommended myfelf to his Eminence's farther Favour and Protection whilft I fhould ftay there, which he was pleafed to grant me very readily.

Hereupon he ordered an Apartment for my Lodgings, which was a Place raifed about a Foot from the Ground, and covered with rich Carpets, on which lay two different Woollen Mattreffes; on mine was a fine Bolfter of crimfon Velvet, and on that of my Interpreter's one ftuff'd with Wool, and cover'd with printed Callico.

In the Evening I was vifited by two Monks, who, according to the Custom of the Convent, propofed to wafh my Head and Feet; I was obliged to fuffer them to perform the firft, but infifted to difpenfe with the fecond, and after much Struggle and Difficulty I obtained my Defire, and
was

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was excused. From this Apartment I had a full View of the horrible Rocks and Cliffs we had pass'd through.

This Convent lies in a deep Valley; fronting the Entrance it has the high Rocks; just before it is a fine Pleasure Garden, encompassed with a high Wall: The Valley before the Convent is inhabited by *Moors*. On one Side of the Valley, not far from the Garden, is a red, sandy, stony Hill, where *Aaron* is said to have performed Divine Worship in Tents; and where Fire fell from Heaven and consumed his two Sons, *Nadab* and *Abihu*, *Exod.* iii. 3.

Above the Convent, towards *Mount Sinai*, is a green Hill, on which they say *Moses* used to feed the Flock of *Jethro's* Sheep.

The Convent is above 1200 Years old: It was built by the Architect of the famous Church of *St. Sophia*, at *Constantinople*; the Foundress thereof was the Empress *Helen*, but it was finished and endowed by the Emperor *Justinian*; the Order belonging to it is that of *St. Catherine*.

It is a very large and strong Building, well secured with high Walls of hewn Stone; it has three Gates of strong Iron-Work; over the Entrance of the middle Gate is an Opening, from whence the Monks defend
the

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the Convent against any sudden Attempt of the *Moors*, by flinging Stones at them, or by scalding them with hot Water; for this Convent is obliged to feed 50, sometimes 100 *Moors*, which harbour among the Rocks about it; and in Case they did not supply them with Provisions, they would be in Danger of having their Convent demolished, and themselves rooted out; for which Reason, there is three or four Times a Year a great Supply of Provisions sent them by Caravans, to enable them to keep these hungry Savages in good Humour and Quietness.

The Roof of the Convent is built with Terrasses to walk upon; the Ceilings of the Rooms and Chapels are plaister'd; the Church is magnificent, built of Stone; the Floor of it is paved with Marble, curiously inlaid with *Mosaic* Work; the Walls are lined with Marble, and on each Side is a Row of six Marble Pillars to support the Roof, each of them dedicated to a certain Saint; their Pictures are painted on gilded Tables, and hung above the Capitals of the Pillars which hide the Repositories or Shrines of their Relicks; the Roof is cover'd with Lead; East, behind this Church, is a Chapel, dedicated to *John the Baptist*, on the Walls of which are painted the most remarkable

markable Histories of *Moses*. Opposite to this is another, on a Hill, where *Moses* saw the burning Bush.

July the 6th, I was conducted into that Chapel bare-foot, which Custom all the Pilgrims are obliged to observe, if they have the Curiosity to see the Inside thereof. The Place where the Bush burnt, is under a white square Marble, which is encompassed with Copper about a Span high, work'd, and fixed into the Wall; over it is an Altar, or Table of white Marble, which rests upon four Marble Pillars; under this Table, between the Pillars, burn three Lamps continually: The Canopy over it is four Square, of *Mosaic* Work; laid in with several Sorts of Wood, hung round with Silver Censers, in which the Lamps are always kept burning.

Out of this Chapel we went into the great Church, to the Shrine of *St. Catharine*, in which are kept the Relicks of her Body, viz. the Skull which is of a brown Colour, as tho' it had laid a long Time in Oil; and her Left-hand, which has still all its Joints perfect; the Thumb, and one of her Fingers, are ornamented with a great Number of Rings: These Relicks are wrapt up in Cotton, and deposited in a Marble square Coffin, ornamented with Sculpture of several Figures, and stands on the Right-hand of the Altar. The

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The Monks, who shewed these Relicks, approached it with great Reverence and Devotion; they view'd, and kiss'd them with Humility and Veneration: I, for my Part, presented this Shrine with three Ducats, and a Ring set with three Rubies, which was taken by the Monks as a particular Respect I shewed to their Relicks; but in Truth it was as an Acknowledgment for the Civilities they had shewn me.

Fronting the going out of the Church, there is a very deep Cistern, or Well, hewn for the most Part in a Rock, out of which *Moses* is said to have water'd his Sheep: It has good fresh Water, with a continual Spring.

July the 6th, the Bishop ordered one of the Monks to accompany me to *Mount Sinai*; my Interpreter and two *Moors*, who carried our Provisions, attended us. Below the Convent, at the Beginning of the Mount is a deep, wide, and long Well, in which falls the Water from *Moses's* Mount. Advancing a little farther up Hill, we arrived at a Well that has its Spring from a Rock, at which we refreshed ourselves, the Water being very clear and pleasant.

The Legend concerning this Well, told by the Monk, was as follows. Once the Convent was sadly pester'd with Serpents,
Worms,

Worms, and other Insects, insomuch that the Monks intended to retire from thence with the Relicks of St. *Catharine*, and to deposit them in some other Place; but having visited the holy Places in Procession, and taken, as it were, their Leave of them, in their Return, they saw the *Virgin Mary*, on an Eminence, over which, in Memory of it, is built a little Chapel; she admonished them not to depart from thence, for that she would intercede with God for them to free their Convent from those Vermine: Whereupon she vanished from before their Eyes; the Monks were highly surpris'd, and being come down a little Way from that Place, they fell on their Knees and prayed to God to confirm this Vision, by causing a Fountain to spring out of that Place, which accordingly happened before they had finished their Prayer. Whereupon the Monks hasten'd to the Convent, which they found free from Vermine, and which has continued so ever since.

The Path from below the Valley, almost to the Top of *Mount Sinai*, is, as it were, by Steps: Advancing a little Way up from the Well, we came to a little Chapel, called *St. Mary*, to which was adjoining a small Apartment. In this Chapel the Monk thurified with Incense, lighted a Wax Candle,
and

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and left it burning. Without this Chapel are two Rows of Stones, whereon the Monks who lived there in ancient Times used to eat their Viſtuals.

A little farther up, we arrived at an arch'd Gateway, built in former Times, between the Cliffs, for a narrow Paſs; near which a Monk was obliged to ſtand Centry, to keep every one from advancing farther to the Top of the Mount, without the Biſhop's ſpecial Order. Whiſt we were viewing this Place, the Monk told us the following Legend.

At a certain Time, ſaid he, it happened, that a *Jew* endeavoured, by Stealth, to enter that Gate among ſome Chriſtians, nobody knowing but what he belong'd to their Company: But what happened? Whiſt he was ſtriving to get through the Gate, all the Chriſtians paſſed by him, and he was not able to ſtir one Foot farther: Being aſk'd why he did not follow? He answer'd, that he ſaw Chriſt on the Croſs; and being a *Jew*, it was impoſſible he could advance any farther: Whereupon he cauſed himſelf to be baptized, and then went thro' the Gate chearfully without the leaſt Hindrance. On this Account, ſaid the Monk, no *Jew* dares venture to try the Experiment.

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Not far distant from this Pass, is another, which in the Winter Season is so choak'd up with Snow, as makes it difficult to get through. After this we passed between high rough Cliffs, and came to a wide even Plain, where begins *Mount Horeb*, which is a Rock of brown and red Stone, rough, as though it had been broke all over. This Mount stands free, and is higher than *Mount Sinai*, though this is the Foundation of it; for below, the Mount is single, but here it divides into two Spires, the one is called *Mount Sinai*, and the other *Horeb*.

Upon the before-mentioned Plain is a pleasant, beautiful, little Garden, and three little Chapels, with flat Roofs, or Terrasses, joining to *Mount Horeb*: One is called *St. Mary*, the middlemost *Elisa*, and the third the Chapel of the Prophets. In these the Monk thurified with Incense plentifully, in Honour of these Saints.

The Chapel of *Elisa* was the best, and the Monk propos'd, as the Night drew near, to make it our Lodgings; but I being eager to advance farther, whilst Day lasted, we ventured to climb over rough, batter'd and broken horrible Cliffs, in which are several very ancient Chapels; as, one of *St. George*, another of *St. John*, and a third of *St. Bartholomew*; but the great Danger we
saw

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saw before our Eyes, the Approach of Night, and the supposed Impossibility to go any farther, we slept with wearied Legs down, and arrived pretty late at Night to the Chapel of *Elisa*. Here we opened our Provision Basket, and made Use of the Altar for a table; after we had eat our Supper, we lay down on some Thistles and Thorns spread on the Pavement, and having a Stone for a Pillow, we slept very sound till next Morning; when waking, we found the Air serene, and the Day proving fair and clear, we had a fine Opportunity to look about us.

On one Corner, both without and within *Elisa's* Chapel, is a very hard red Stone, which is hollow; the Inside is all over black; in this the Prophet hid himself, after he had slain *Baal's* Priests, to escape the Wrath of Queen *Jesabel*. Next to the Garden of the before-mentioned Plain, is a large, red Stone, on which the Children of *Israel* engraved some *Hebrew* Letters; there is likewise a Well of fresh Spring Water. The whole Plain is surrounded with high Stone Cliffs.

'Twas early in the Morning when we advanced farther up *Mount Sinai*, and *Horeb*; when at the Right-hand the Monk shewed us a Hollow, in which stood formerly the Image of the Virgin *Mary*; he lighted a

Candle, and bid us look into it with Attention: He then told us, that once when a Patriarch came there to perform his Devotion, the Virgin *Mary* appeared to him, and inquired the Reason of his Melancholly. He having made Answer, that the *Moors* had invested the Convent, she told him, that she would retire to *Cairo* in *Egypt*. Next to this is another Miracle, namely, a red Stone, whereon is a plain Impression of a Camel's Hoof, of which the *Moors* relate, that *Mahomet* had rode up the Mount on a Camel, and for a Memorial thereof, God had caused that Animal's Hoof to make an Impression in that Stone.

Farther up is a long and broad Stone, of a brown Colour, of which a large Piece from Top to Bottom appears, as though it was cut down with a Sword, which is said to have been done by the Arch-Angel *Michael*, with a naked Sword, to prevent *Elias's* advancing any farther up the Hill.

The Summit of *Mount Sinai* is where *Moses* received the Law; going up to that Place, at the Left-hand, is a Stone Chapel, with an Iron Door, which is kept lock'd; this is built on the extreme Point of the Mount: This Chapel is partition'd in two Parts; the one is allotted for the Worship of the Roman Catholicks, the other for the *Greeks*.

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Greeks. The Monk told us, it was haunted to such a Degree with an Evil Spirit, that it was impossible for any one to continue therein after Night.

Opposite to this is a Mosque, where the *Moors* perform their Devotions. Under this Mosque is a hollow Stone, in which *Moses* kept his forty Days Fast, without Food or Drink : One goes eleven Steps down into the Cavity of the Stone, and the Mosque is exactly upon it.

At one Corner of the Mount, near the Christian Chapel, there is another remarkable Stone, in which is plainly seen the natural Likeness of a large human Body, impress'd as with the left Side against it. This is said to be the Stone, under which *Moses* out of an Opening had talk'd with God.

Having satisfied my Curiosity in viewing the Summit of *Mount Sinai*, we went thro' intricate rocky Ways, for two Hours, down a Valley, where we took some Refreshment of what Provisions we had left; that Place afforded us a pleasant Draught of Water from a Spring.

This Valley, which is long and deep, lies below and between *Mount Sinai*, *Horeb*, and *Mount Sinai-Catharina*, and parts them from the other Hills, which, however, go under the Denomination of *Sinai*, as joining to one another.

The rocky Hills, bordering upon *Mount Sinai*, extend themselves to the Convent of the forty Martyrs; where being arrived, we saw the Chapel, the Ceiling whereof was vaulted, which was something of a Rarity in that Part of the World. Beside this, there are more than forty other square Chapels or Cells, built close to one another: The Door, which leads out of the Convent into the Garden, is made of Iron: The Garden is plentifully stored with Olive Trees, which are of great Benefit to the Monks; besides these, there are choice Trees of Almonds, Pomegranates, and other Fruit. Here is always a Monk, attended by a *Moor*, to keep Watch, to hand to the wild *Arabs*, that harbour about those Mountains, some Victuals, in order to prevent their being troublesome to the Convent.

After Dinner, we climbed up *St. Catherine's Mount*, which consists chiefly of black and brown Slate: In our Way we found several cool Springs, about which grow some Herbs, to me unknown, of a sweet Flavour. From the Convent of the forty Martyrs to the Top of this Mount, is six *Italian Miles*.

It was with the utmost Difficulty and the Hazard of our Lives that we ascended this Mount; for in case our Hands and Feet
had

had slipt their Hold, we must unavoidably have been dash'd to Pieces; but Providence preserved us, and we got safe to the Top, where we found a little Hut, built with large Stones, and covered with Joists: This is said to be the Place to which the Corps of the Virgin *Catharine* was carried by Angels from *Egypt*, after she, with great Constancy, had suffered Martyrdom. In that Hut is shewn a Stone of ten Spans long, on which the Angels had laid the Corps, and there is a plain Impression in what Posture it was laid; from that Hut we had a fine Prospect of the two-spired *Mount Sinai*, and the Mosque of the *Moors*: We likewise saw the *Red* and *India Sea* at the left Hand, and at the Right, the Convent of *St. Anthony*, which is no less than three Days Journey from thence, and the Districts beyond it as far as *Egypt*.

But the most delightful Prospects from that Mount, are the several fine pleasant Gardens, which the *Greek* Monks or Hermits have raised and cultivated in the Valleys, among the high Hills and Rocks, all about the Districts of *Mount Sinai*, and who have their Subsistence out of them by their own Hand-Labour.

Walking up the Mount a little Way from the Convent of the forty Martyrs, we

saw, on the left Hand, a very high-spread-
ing Rock, which had the Resemblance of
a perfect Tree, with Branches, Leaves,
Stem and Root, as though it had been a
real one, and petrified. This Wonder of
Nature, I saw with great Delight and Ad-
miration, and broke some of the Twigs,
to carry them as a Rarity with me, whenever
I returned into *Europe*: The Colour of
this Rock is grey; but all the rest are either
black or brown.

Returning to the Convent, we lodged
there that Night: In the Morning the
Monks treated us with Bread and Olives.
After which we took our Leave, and com-
ing down a deep Valley, we saw a Rock,
of a white Colour, sprinkled with red, of
a prodigious Hardness, which has twelve
long Rents. This Rock stands between
Mount Sinai and *St. Catharine*, and is said
to be the same which *Moses* struck with
his Staff to give Drink to the *Israelites*, as
we may read in *Exod. xvii*.

From thence we came to a Place where
the Children of *Israel* kept below the
Mount, whilst *Moses* went a-top to receive
the Law: This is a sandy Valley, surround-
ed with very high Rocks.

Before we arrived at the Water-Rock,
we were conducted to a little Garden, in
which

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which was a high Rock, with a ruined Chapel built upon it, in which formerly dwelt *Onuphirus*, a famous Hermit.

Farther we came to a small Convent belonging to the *Greeks*, which had a fine pleasant Garden belonging to it; and on the right Hand was the Convent of *St. David*, which likewise has a delightful Garden, with Almond, Pomgranate, and other Fruit-Trees; and round about the Districts of those Convents, are little Pleasure-Gardens, raised by the industrious Hands of Monks and Hermits; the largest among them has a fine Spring of clear Water.

The Convent of *St. David* has two Churches; one of *St. Anthony*, which is very dark; the other of *St. Mary*: The Gates are of Iron: The Convent receives a Subsidy of 500 Crowns from the City of *Messina*, in *Sicily*, which was granted by the Pope, as the Legend goes, on Account of an ancient Monk being brought by an Angel, from this Convent, into the Presence of the Pope at *Rome*.

We found but one Monk or Hermit in this Convent, who had only a *Moor* for his Attendant and Guard against the straggling wild *Arabs*, who come daily to visit those Places, to receive their Sustenance.

In our Way from *St. David's* to the

Greek Convent, at the Foot of *Mount Sinai*, we came to a white Stone in an open Field, where the Children of *Israel* worshipped the golden Calf, and where *Moses* coming from the Mount flung the Tables of the Law, which left the Impression of the Figure of an Ox's Head with Horns in that Stone.

Not far distant are the Catacombs of the Children of *Israel*, which are built near and within the Mount, not unlike the Cells of the forty Martyrs; and a little farther is a light grey Stone, on which *Moses* erected the brazen Serpent: The *Greeks* say, that the Tables of the Law lie buried under this Stone. About this District is also a Place where the Children of *Israel* were fed with Manna.

Having taken a View of the Monuments of Antiquity in these Desarts, we went back to the Convent, and the next Morning at Sun-rising we went, for two Hours, up and down Hill; in our Way we espied a *Moor* with a Lance in his Hand, and a Cloth of Camel's Hair about his Middle, coming from behind the Rocks; his advancing towards us put us in a little Surprise, but he only search'd the Monk's Basket, took the Bread out of it, and went his Way behind the Rocks, whence he came.

In

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In the Evening, at our Return, we came near our Convent to a fine Garden, which belong'd to two *Greek* Monks, who invited us to Supper, and treated us in an elegant Manner with Figs, Olives, Apples and other choice Fruit; and the next Day, *July* 11th, the Monks of the Convent presented me with some Provisions of Bread, Flower, Oil and Olives. I took my Leave of them, very well satisfied with the kind Reception I had met with, both from the Bishop, and the rest of the religious Order of that Convent, and went along with a Company that was setting out for *Grand Cairo*; where I safely arrived, after much Toil, Fatigue and Danger.

B O O K



B O O K I V.

Of several wonderful Productions and Curiosities in the Works of Nature.

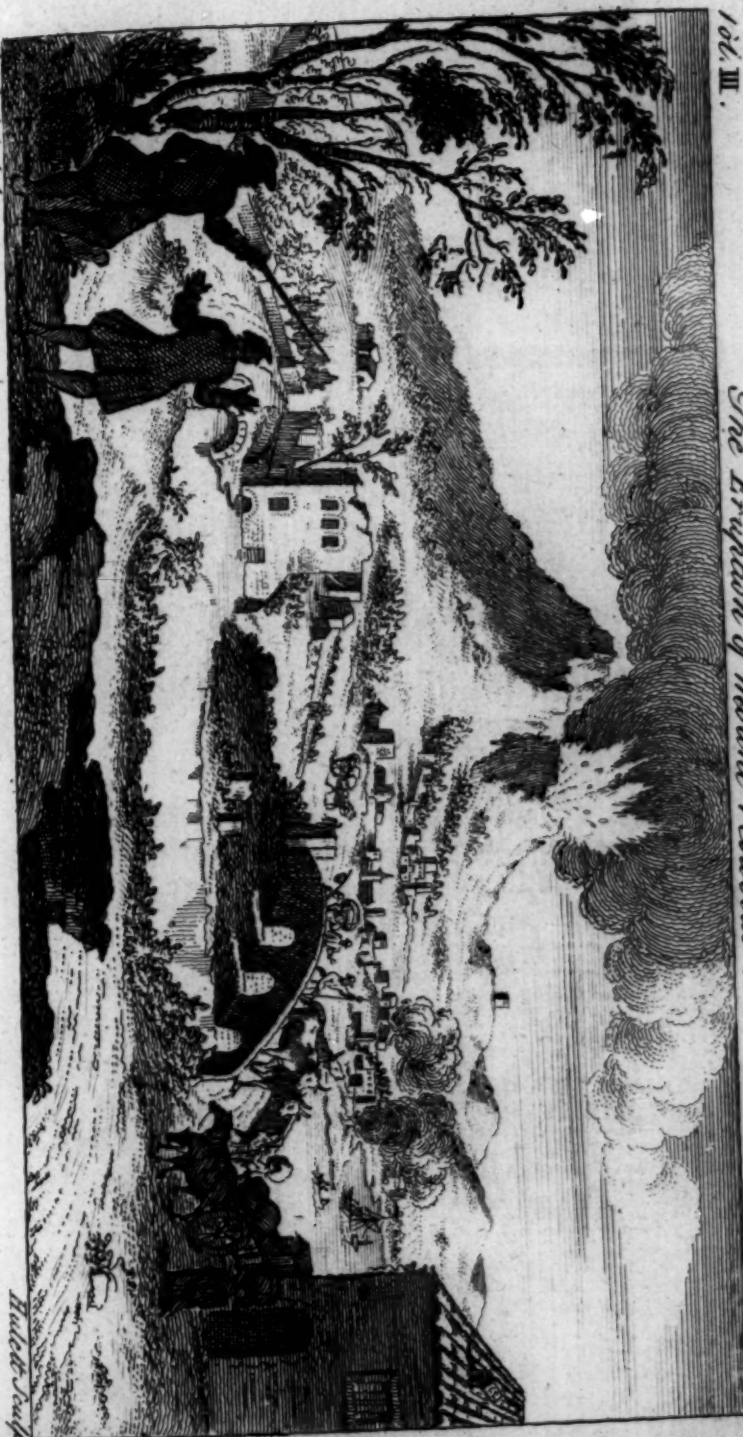
C H A P. I.

Of Mount Vesuvius, the Volcano in Italy.



AMONG the many Curiosities in Nature, *Italy* abounds with ; as the Variety of pleasing Prospects ; Hills, covered here with Vineyards, there with Snow ; amazing Falls of Water ; hot Baths ; sulphurous Lakes, and the like ; all which attract the Eye of the Beholder, and command his Attention ; there are none so surprising as the several *Volcanos*, or Receptacles of subterraneous Fires, especially that in the Kingdom of *Naples*, and that in the neighbouring Island of *Sicily*.

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J. Smith del.

Hulst's Camp



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It is worth observing, that there is no Account given of Mount *Vesuvius* casting Flames, before the Reign of the Emperor *Titus*; which plainly shews, that the inclosed Fire had been long gathering Strength in the Bowels of the Earth, as several others do, without being perceived; or else, that it was exhaled by some other Vent. And indeed, ever since this Hill has emitted Flames, there are few or no Fires to be seen in the *Æolian*, now call'd the *Liparee* Islands, which heretofore were wont to burn very fiercely.

It was, as I have said, under the Reign of *Titus*, that the Fire, which had so long lain hid in this Mountain, broke out with great Vehemence, carrying with it vast Quantities of Stones and Ashes, which entirely overwhelmed and destroyed the two great Cities call'd *Hervelana* and *Pompea*, (the Remains whereof, by digging pretty deep, having been since found out, are seen to this Day) and very much damaged *Naples* itself. This strange Accident occasion'd a Loss long since deplored by the learned World, that of the famous *Pliny*, who being at that Time Commander of the *Roman* Fleet at *Miseno*, with his usual Curiosity immediately set Sail to the Place where the Flames appear'd, and order'd his Ship to be brought as near as possible to it, that he might make
his

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his Observations with more Accuracy on so new and uncommon a Sight. As he was at that Time very much advanced in Years, and besides troubled with an Asthma, he was suddenly seized by these thick, malignant, sulphurous Vapours, that increased his Distemper, and were the Cause of his Death, which happen'd a few Days after. Upon no other Ground than this, some have ventured to say, that the better to examine every Thing, he had made those about him let him down with Ropes into the hollow Part of the Hill, where he was suffocated by the Flames and burnt to Ashes. This first Eruption was, as has been said, very considerable; after which the Fires ceased for a great while; at least, I do not find upon Record any other considerable Eruption, till the Year 471. But this was so violent, that if we may credit common Report, the Cinders were carried as far as *Constantinople*; which Prodigy was thought, by superstitious Minds, to presage the Destruction of the Empire, that happened immediately after, occasion'd, as every Body knows, by that Inundation of *Goths* which spread itself all over *Europe*.

The third remarkable Eruption, related by *Baronius*, was in 681. He says, that several Rivers of Brimstone and Bituminous Matter

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Matter issued from the fiery Lake, and ran into the Sea, the Marks whereof are still to be seen. There have been since several other Eruptions less considerable; but after a Kind of Cessation of some hundred Years, they have been again renewed with more Fury than ever in the last Century; first, in 1631, next in 1638, and again in 1690, when there were such violent Flames burst forth, and such terrible Earthquakes, that the Cities of *Naples*, *Benevento*, and several others, were very nigh being intirely destroy'd. Besides, these noxious Vapours had so infected the Air, that a Plague ensued, which lasted a great while, and spread to such a Degree, that the dreadful Effects of it were heard in the Neighbourhood of *Rome*.

To this short History of the *Vesuvian Volcano*, I shall add a very exact Account of it as it was in the Year 1701, when Mr. *Addison* saw it, and I shall chuse to give it in that celebrated Author's own Words, *viz.*

This Mountain stands at about six *English* Miles Distance from *Naples*, though by Reason of its Height it seems much nearer to those that survey it from the Town. In our Way to it, we passed by what was one of those Rivers of burning Matter, that ran from it in a late Eruption. This looks

looks at a Distance like new plough'd Land, but as you come near it, you see nothing but a long Heap of heavy disjointed Clods lying one upon another. There are innumerable Cavities and Interstices among the several Pieces, so that the Surface is all broken and irregular. Sometimes a great Fragment stands like a Rock above the rest, sometimes the whole Heap lies in a Kind of Channel, and in other Places has nothing like a Bank to confine it, but rises 4 or 5 Foot high in the open Air, without spreading abroad on either Side. This, I think, is a plain Demonstration, that these Rivers were not, as they are usually represented, so many Streams of running Matter; for how could a Liquid, that lay hardening by Degrees, settle in such a furrowed uncompact Surface? Were the River in a Confusion of so many different Bodies, if they had been all actually dissolved, they would at least have formed one continued Crust, as we see the *Scorium* of Metals always gathers into solid Pieces, let it be compounded of a thousand heterogeneous Parts. I am apt to think therefore, that these huge unweildy Lumps, that now lie upon one another, as if thrown together by Accident, remained in the melted Matter, rigid and unliquified, floating in it like Cakes of Ice in a River; and that, as the
Fire

ENTERTAINMENT. 113

Fire and Ferment gradually abated, they adjusted themselves together as well as their irregular Figure would permit; and by this Means fell into such an interrupted disorderly Heap as we now find it. What was the melted Matter lies now at the Bottom out of Sight. After having quitted the Side of this long Heap, which was once a Stream of Fire, we came to the Roots of the Mountain, and had a very troublesome March to gain the Top of it. It is covered on all Sides with a Kind of burnt Earth, very dry, and crumbled into Powder, as if it had been artificially sifted. It is very hot under the Feet, and mixed with several burnt Stones and Cakes of Cinders, which have been thrown out at different Times. A Man sinks almost a Foot in the Earth, and generally loses half a Step by sliding backwards. When we had climbed this Mountain, we discovered the Top of it to be a wide naked Plain, smoaking with Sulphur in several Places, and probably undermined with Fire, for we concluded it to be hollow by the Sound it made under our Feet. In the midst of this Plain stands a high Hill, in the Shape of a Sugar-Loaf, so very steep that there would be no mounting or descending it, were it not made up of such loose crumbled Earth as I have before described.

scribed. The Air of this Place must be very much impregnated with Saltpetre, as appears by the Specks of it on the Sides of the Mountain, where one can scarce find a Stone that has not the Top white with it. After we had, with much ado, conquer'd this Hill, we saw into the midst of the present Mouth of *Vesuvius*, that goes shelving down on all Sides, till above an hundred Yards deep, as near as we could guess, and is about three or four hundred in Diameter, for it seems a perfect Round. This vast Hollow is generally fill'd with Smoak, but, by the Advantage of the Wind that blew for us, we had a very clear and distinct Sight of it. The Sides appear all over stain'd with Mixtures of white, green, red and yellow, and have several Rocks standing out of them, that look like pure Brimstone. The Bottom was entirely cover'd, and though we look'd very narrowly, we could see nothing like a Hole in it; the Smoak breaking through several imperceptible Cracks in many Places. The very Middle was firm Ground, when we saw it, as we concluded from the Stones we flung upon it, and I question not but one might then have cross'd the Bottom, and have gone up the other Side of it with very little Danger, unless from some accidental Breath
of

of Wind. In the late Eruptions this great Hollow was like a vast Cauldron fill'd with glowing and melted Matter, which, as it boil'd over in any Part, ran down the Sides of the Mountain, and made five such Rivers as that before-mention'd. In Proportion as the Heat slacken'd, this burning Matter must have subsided within the Bowels of the Mountain, and as it sunk very leisurely had Time to cake together, and form the Bottom, which covers the Mouth of that dreadful Vault that lies underneath it. The next Eruption or Earthquake will probably break in Pieces this false Bottom, and quite change the present Face of Things.

This whole Mountain, shaped like a Sugar-Loaf, has been made at several Times, by the prodigious Quantities of Earth and Cinders, which have been thrown up out of the Mouth that lies in the midst of it, so that it increases in Bulk at every Eruption, the Ashes still falling down the Sides of it, like the Sand in an Hour-Glass. A Gentleman of *Naples* told me, that in his Memory it had gain'd twenty Foot in Thickness; and I question not but in Length of Time it will cover the whole Plain, and make one Mountain with that on which it now stands.

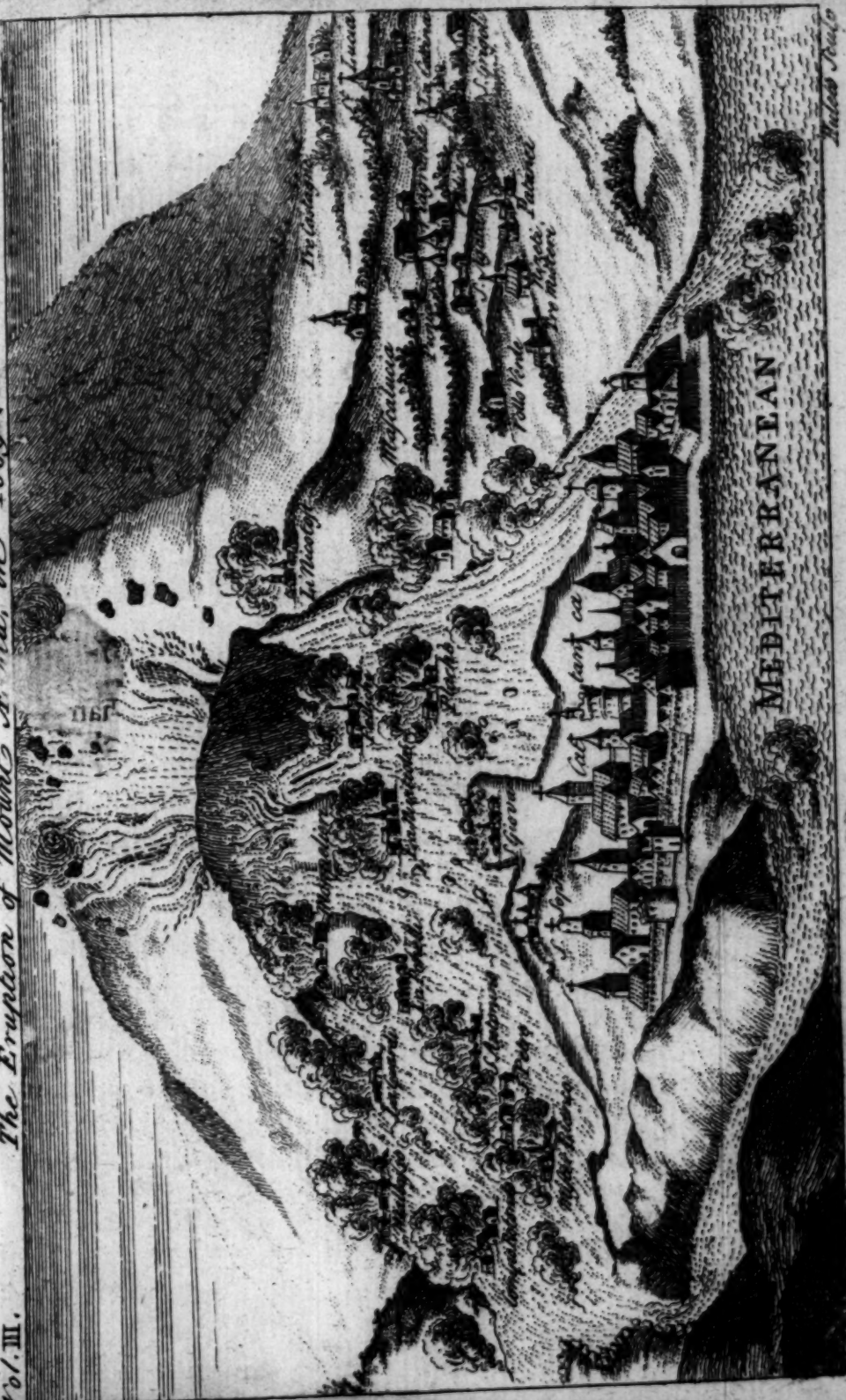
In those Parts of the Sea that are not far from the Roots of this Mountain, they find
sometimes

sometimes a very fragrant Oil, which is sold dear, and makes a rich Perfume. The Surface of the Sea is, for a little Space, cover'd with its Bubbles, during the Time that it rises, which they skim off into their Boats, and afterwards set to separate in Pots and Jars. They say its Sources never run but in calm warm Weather. The Agitations of the Water, perhaps, hinder them from discovering it at other Times.

C H A P. II.

Of Mount Etna, the Volcano in Sicily

MOUNT *Etna* is much higher than *Vesuvius*, having, according to the Dimensions of some Mathematicians, ten or twelve Miles perpendicular Height; the lower Part of the Mountain and surrounding Valleys are exceedingly fruitful. This they have in common with all those Lands which lie near any *Volcanos*; these inward Fires, when assisted by the Moisture of frequent Rains, or the adjoining Sea, being productive of great Plenty. For this Reason, the lower Part of the Mountain is planted with Trees of all Sorts, but towards the middle Part it is quite cover'd with Cinders and Stones,



G. Smith del.

Engraved by J. Smith

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Stones, which are continually flung up by the Eruption, and mix with the Snow that falls from the Summit of the Mountain. At the Top of the Summit, is the largest Vent or Opening, a vast Hollow, offering to the Eye a frightful Precipice, the Circumference whereof is about ten or twelve Miles, and the Diameter about three or four. This Opening decreases or increases, proportionably to the Violence of the Eruption. I have been credibly inform'd, that at Times it has emitted neither Fire nor Smoak, but has been quite stopt up, as Mr. *Addison* says Mount *Vesuvius* was, when he saw it. There are in many Places of the Mountain several other Openings, from which in the Day-time issues Smoak, which in the Night appears as clear and bright as Fire. On all Sides are visible Marks of Streams of sulphurous Matter, like unto melted Metal, and the whole Country thereabouts is full of burnt Stones, call'd *Charres* by the Inhabitants, which, when the Hill burns fiercely, are thrown several Miles from it.

In the most ancient Histories, Mention is made of this Fire, but without fixing the Date of the first Eruption; so we may reasonably conclude, it has been burning Time out of Mind; and yet, these Stores
of

of combustible Matter are not exhausted. In the Space of about 3000_Years there have been no less than thirty considerable Eruptions.

The first (that we have any Knowledge of) happened at the Time of the Conquest of the *Golden Fleece* by the *Greeks*, 1200_Years before the Birth of *Christ*; the next, when *Aeneas* came to *Italy*, a little after the Siege of *Troy*. There are three more reckon'd from the third *Olympiad* to the eighty-third; four very remarkable ones under the Consuls; one under *Julius Cæsar*; one under *Caligula*, in the Year of our Lord, 40; and another under *Charlemain*, in the Year 80. From the Year 1160 to 1169, it broke out several Times, and *Sicily* was continually agitated by Earthquakes, which caused the Death of many thousand Persons, and the Ruin of several fine Cities.

This *Volcano* began to rage again in the Year 1284. From 1329 to 1333, it burnt almost continually. It broke out again in 1408, but from 1444 to 1447, it never ceased, but blazed without Intermision, as it did from 1536 to 1537. There was another dreadful Eruption in 1633, which lasted till 1639, and was followed by that of Mount *Vesuvius*, where every Thing had been still and quiet for some Time. After

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a short Respite, it broke out more impetuously than ever, in 1660; but the next Eruption, in 1669, being extremely remarkable in all its Circumstances, may be look'd upon as one of the most memorable Events that ever happened, and deserves as much to be recorded as any of those History has handed down to us. For this Reason, the curious Reader will not be displeased, if I give him an exact Account of it, which I have extracted from a very valuable *Italian* Manuscript, the Author of which was a Gentleman of *Naples*, a very ingenious Person and a good Scholar, who was in *Sicily* at the very Time this Accident happen'd. He examined most of the Particulars he relates, and had the rest immediately from those who were Eye-witnesses to the surprising and dreadful Scene he describes.

Eighteen Days before there was any Suspicion of an Eruption, there were felt all over *Sicily*, but especially near Mount *Etna*, violent Earthquakes, accompany'd with Storms and Lightnings, whereby several stately Buildings were level'd with the Ground, and the Town of *Nicolosi*, about half a Mile distant from the Mountain, was not only quite overthrown, but the Ruins of it were sunk a considerable Depth into the Ground.

Ground. It is worth observing, that several Persons who were at Sea, between *Sicily* and *Calabria*, heard a strange Kind of a Noise under the Water, which bubbled up on all Sides, notwithstanding the Sea was calm, and the Sky very clear. About two Months before, *Vesuvius*, *Strongbelio*, and other neighbouring *Volcanos*, burnt more fiercely than ordinary, casting out Flames and Smoak with unusual Violence; and in Mount *Etna*, the Covering form'd by an Incrustation of Cinders and Pumice-Stones, which lay over the Mouth of the large Opening, broke with a horrid Noise, and fell into the fathomless Pit.

At last, the 11th of *March*, 1669, the Fire appeared, not through the wide Mouth of any of the former Openings, but it rent the Earth at two Miles Distance from the main Mountain, making its Way through three Hillocks, call'd, *Malpasso*, *Montpelieri*, and *Fessera*, which lie much lower than the large Opening, about ten Miles from the City *Catana*, and are Branches of Mount *Necillo*. There cannot be conceived a more terrible Sight than this was; the Earth bursting open on a sudden, with Roarings louder and more hideous than the united Reports of a hundred Thunder-Claps; the whole Horizon moving to and fro

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fro before one's Eyes ! Flames borne aloft into the Air, in the midst of which was seen a Fountain of liquified Metals and Brimstone, spouting up like Water-Works, fifteen or twenty Foot high !

From the three Hillocks issued forth three Torrents, which having run down the Declivity, soon united, and forming a vast River of Fire, more terrible than that celebrated among the Poets by the Name of *Pblegeton*, it took its Course towards *Catana*, which, as has been said, was about ten Miles Distance. In the first twenty-four Hours, this fiery Stream ran three Miles, but afterwards it went more slowly ; insomuch that about the 5th of *April*, that is, twenty-five Days after its Beginning, it scarce got forwards above 150, 120, or 100 Paces a-Day ; and it continued thus for fifteen or twenty Days, advancing every Day slower and slower. The Cause whereof might be this : The farther this Mineral's fluid Substance proceeded from the Fountain-head, the colder, and consequently the less liquid it grew. Besides, the Declivity not being so steep, the Stream (beginning to run almost upon a Level) could not flow so rapidly as before. The Breadth of it in several Places was near three Miles, in others less, in Proportion to the Difference

of the Ground it ran upon, and from Time to Time it divided into several Branches, which afterwards join'd again into one. This fiery Inundation was ten or twelve Foot above the Surface of the Earth, and went three or four Foot deep beneath it. It is needless to add, that wherever it passed, every Thing within the Reach of it was destroyed. But what to some will appear very surprizing is, that at a considerable Distance from it, not only Trees fell down, but Houses too, the Reason whereof is not very difficult to discover; for the Earth being extraordinarily heated by this burning Brimstone wherewith it was impregnated, this Heat extended itself on all Sides, and burnt up the Roots of the Trees; whereby wanting their proper hold, they must necessarily come to the Ground. And in the same Manner, the Foundation of Houses, as well as the Earth that surrounded them, being calcined, and reduced to Powder, the Houses themselves must needs give Way, and sink under their own Weight. Thus did this Torrent roll on as far as *Catana*, where it fill'd up the *Fosse*, or dry Ditch, without penetrating into the Town, or doing much Damage in the Neighbourhood of it; for, by a peculiar Happiness in so bad an Accident, at last it took its Course
towards

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towards the Sea (as if wearied with the Ravage it had done) in which it moved in a visible Stream for above half a Mile, making the Water near it hiss and bubble in a surprising Manner.

Several had the Curiosity to examine into the Nature and Substance of this liquid burning Matter. It was found to be very heavy, and, when grown cold, very hard; in some Places spongy, in others solid; and both in Colour and Figure very much resembling the Dross of Iron. The Salts seemed to be of the Nature of Vitriol, Salt-Petre, and Sal-Armoniac, with a considerable Mixture of Sulphur. It has been tried upon Dogs and other Animals, in order to see if it participated of the Nature of Arsenic, but it was not perceived these Creatures were in any Pain, or had got any Hurt by it. Whilst this Matter was flowing, one might see something like Ashes swimming on its Surface, which, in length of Time, being cool'd and congeal'd by the Air, form'd a very hard and thick Crust, under which the liquid Matter still continued to run. This Crust was often broke by the Force of the Stream, as it was accidentally increased by the Addition of new Matter, the Pieces whereof sunk down out of Sight into the Stream. On the Surface swam a

great Quantity of large burnt Stones, which the People of the Country call *Sciarra*; insomuch that when the Stream, in its Progress to the Sea, fill'd the Ditches, and rose almost to the Top of the Wall of *Catana*, the Inhabitants, at the Sight of these vast Stones moving towards them, were seized with the utmost Consternation, expecting immediate and unavoidable Destruction. But when they saw them stop at the Wall, over-look it, and, as it were, threaten those that were within it, without doing them any farther Damage, their Fears by Degrees abated, and gave Way to a very agreeable Surprise. The Priests and Monks thought this a proper Occasion to work upon the Superstition and Credulity of the Multitude, persuading them that their Deliverance was the Effect of a Miracle obtained by the Intercession of the Virgin *Mary*, Patroness of the City. But the true Reason was this; the Stream, as has been said, was not quite so high as the Walls, but the Stones being lighter, swam above the Surface, and exceeded, by several Foot, the Walls of the City, but did not go over it; they being themselves supported and kept afloat by the liquid Matter in which they swam, which had not Strength enough to beat down the City Wall, it being very thick,

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thick, as it had done those of Farm and Country Houses. Thus what may very often be accounted for by natural Causes, is, through the Ignorance of the People, and Craft of the Friars, and other such Cheats, ascribed to secret Causes, to the Virgin *Mary*, or some other favourite Saint. The whole Country remained fill'd with these Stones, and so many of them were carried into the Sea, as to incroach upon it, and form a Kind of Mole in several Parts of the Coast.

In those Places, where the liquid Matter had Time to cool, and the Crust to harden, one might cross with all Manner of Safety over these Stones, which made a Sort of Bridge. Nevertheless, although they appear'd cold on the outside, within they were burning hot, and continued so, unless they were loosen'd from the Heap, and set a cooling. Whilst the Stream was flowing, they were not unlike the Shoals of Ice, carried down a great River after a hard Frost.

They differ'd in Weight, Size and Hardness, according as they were more or less burnt. Some of my Acquaintance told me, they had put a Stick into the Stream, which was burnt to a Coal, but not reduced to Ashes; the Cause whereof I take to be the

Want of Flame. Others have tried the same Experiment upon an Iron Rod ; others upon a Sword, which did not melt, but was broken in Pieces up to the Hilt ; which I look upon as an Effect of saline and sulphurous Particles, strongly penetrating the Pores of the Steel, and calcining it in an Instant, as *Aqua Fortis* does by Degrees : and I doubt not, had they repeated the Experiment in another Part of the Stream, where the Heat was more intense, both Steel and Iron would have actually been dissolved. Moreover, I have read a little Treatise upon this Subject, wherein is asserted, that a Bar of Iron, flung into the Stream, was seen to melt away like Wax.

The Eruption lasted with the greatest Violence, from the 11th of *March*, to the End of *May*, about which Time it began to decrease by Degrees, and towards the End of *June* it ceased intirely. While it lasted, from the Opening, whence ran the Stream, incessantly issued a great Flame, that ascended up to the Skies amidst thick Clouds * of Smoak, which obscured the Light of the Sun. Numbers of burning Stones and Ashes were flung out at the same Time ; and it is true, though hardly credible, that some of the Ashes were carried

* *In the Original, Whirl-Wind.*

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ried several Leagues, not only within the Island, but over the Streights into *Calabria*, and to several Parts of the Sea, where abundance of Ships were cover'd with this odd Sort of Rain. It is easier to imagine than express the Horror, Consternation, Deaths, Ruins, and Destruction, occasion'd by this dreadful Eruption, this terrifying Hurricane of Fire. Eleven Towns or large Villages were overthrown in such a Manner, that the Remains of them are scarce visible; and thirty-five more lie in Ruins. *Syracusa* was almost totally destroyed; and the Earthquake made the Sea to recoil with so much Impetuosity, that vast Numbers of Fish were left upon the Beach, gasping for Water; but the Sea returning with additional Strength, overflow'd the Walls of that City, and almost cover'd the Citadel.

Catana's Escape from Ruin in this Eruption was but a short Respite; for, in 1693, *Sicily* was again afflicted with a terrible Earthquake. The beautiful Plantations and Crops of Corn in the Valley of *Nota* were utterly spoil'd; several Cities were swallow'd up, instead of which appear'd vast Lakes; *Syracusa* and *Messina* were very much damaged: In a Word, above fifty Cities, Towns or Villages, were destroy'd; and one hundred and fifty thousand Persons lost their Lives. When

When first this Earthquake was felt, it did no great Harm; but two Days after, at the same Hour, it return'd with so much Fury and Violence, as to cause, in less than a Quarter of an Hour, those terrible Effects abovemention'd. At *Catana*, out of two and twenty thousand Inhabitants, not above two thousand escaped, and those maim'd or wounded. The Sea ran back above a Mile, carrying away eight Feluccas, that were in the Port. The City was almost intirely swallow'd up, and in its Room remain'd a Lake four Miles round, full of sulphurous Water, whence arose a very great Stench. At *Augusta*, the Calamity was heighten'd by an unhappy Accident: An Exhalation of Sulphur issuing from the Earth, that had large Cracks in above a thousand Places, set Fire to the Magazines in the Castle, consumed all the Stores and Ammunition in it, blew up vast Quantities of Balls, Bullets, Bombs and Grenadoes, mix'd with the Stones out of the Bulwarks, that were torn up by this violent Explosion, and being thrown a considerable Distance into the Sea, very much damaged the Gallies at *Malta*, that were riding in the Harbour; and as the Sea recoil'd back, all Hands were set to work, lest they should run a-ground, as did a small Vessel for Want of timely Assistance.

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sistance. In short, although this Earthquake did most Harm in *Sicily*, it was nevertheless felt at the same Time at *Malta*, and even as far as *Africa* on the one Side, and on the other, all over *Calabria*, and up the *Adriatic Sea*, or *Gulph of Venice*. The *Volcano* of *Ætna* roar'd so loud, as to be heard at *Messina*. At *Malta*, the Air appeared all in Fire, and every where was diffused a strong Smell of Brimstone.

I shall conclude with observing, that in the Year which follow'd this Event, Earthquakes were felt all along the two Coasts of the *Adriatic*, whereby was destroyed the City of *Ragusa*, the Seat of a small Commonwealth. And in the Marches of *Ancona*, an intire Hill, with Woods, Farms and Cottages upon it; was by the Earthquake torn from the Ground it stood upon, and carried two Miles into the Sea (to compare small Things with great) as a Mine blows up a Bastion.

C H A P. III.

Of the Burning Mountain Hecla.

HECCLA is a Mountain in *Iceland*, which, like *Vesuvius* and *Ætna*, throws up
G. 5
dreadful

dreadful Flames of Fire, with such Abundance of black Ashes and Pumice-Stones, that they darken the Sun, and lay the Country desolate for six Miles round. The superstitious Natives of that Country believe it the Place of Hell.

Monf. *Martinire*, who, in his Travels to the northern Parts of the World, had the Curiosity to take a View of that so much celebrated *Volcano*, gives us the following Account.

Being landed on the *Iceland* Shore, we travel'd for two Days over Hills and untraced Ground to Mount *Hecla*; within six Miles of it, we found the District round it cover'd with Ashes and Pumice-Stones, over which we were obliged to walk till we came to the Foot of the Mount.

The Weather was fair and serene, and as we could perceive no Flames issuing from the Mount, we came to a Resolution to go up to the Top of it, notwithstanding our Guide advised us to the contrary; and being advanced a pretty Way, he told us, that in Case we ventured any farther we should be in Danger of falling into some of the Hollows burnt out by the Fire, and be inevitably lost. This Caution struck most of our Company with Dread, who resolved not to go any farther; but I and a *Danish* Merchant ventured up by ourselves. We

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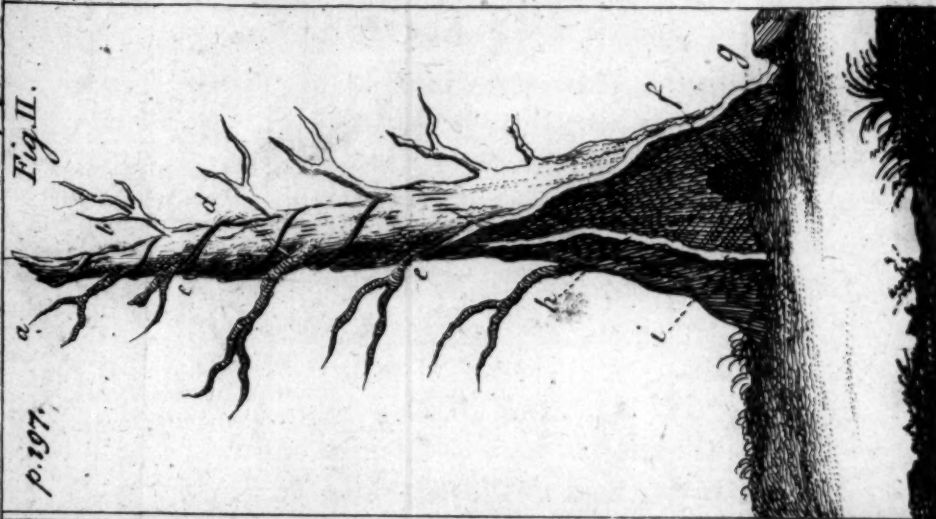
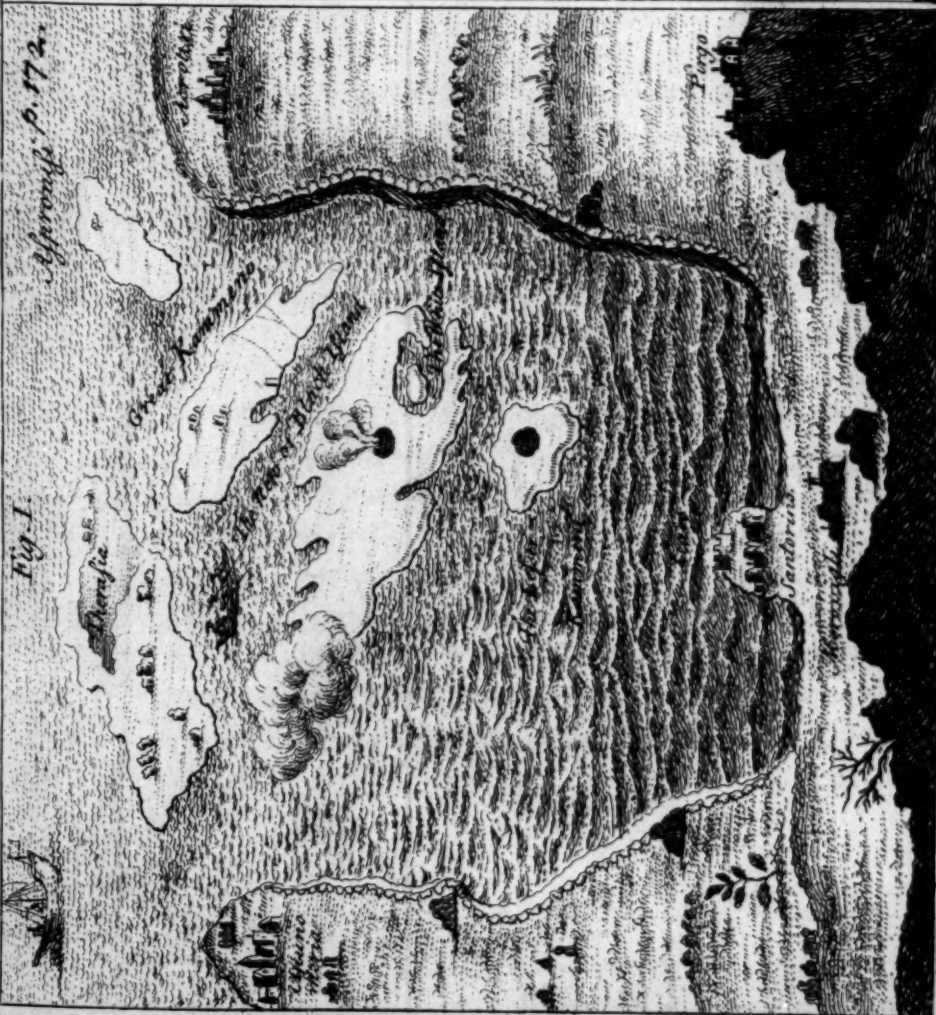
We left our Horses with the rest of the Company, then climbed Abole deep through Ashes and Pumice-Stones; in our Way we espied a vast Number of Ravens and Crows, who had built their Nests there; and being advanced about half a Mile up the Hill, we perceived the Earth to shake under our Feet. This was a sufficient Token of its being hollow, and we now were apprehensive of the Danger our Guide had foretold us. At the same Time we saw round us several large Rents, out of which issued forth Sparks and Flames of Fire; we also heard the rattling of Pumice-Stones; this put us into the greatest Consternation, and presently a vast Quantity of Ashes broke out of the Mount, inso-much that it darken'd the very Sky, and we could hardly see one another; what added more to our Dread was, the breaking out of new Flames, and great Quantities of Ashes, which fell like Showers of Hail upon us; also a horrible crackling Noise underground, so that we expected every Moment to be swallowed up: However, we made good Use of our Legs, and at last got safe to our Company, who seeing us in a terrible Pickle, first laugh'd at us, but when they saw both of us fall down for dead, they rubbed our Temples with Vinegar,

negar, and using other Means to recover us, we came to ourselves again, and having taken a Glafs of *Spanish* Wine, we were able to go on. About 100 Paces down hill, we came to two Wells, the Water of one being continually hot, and the other so cold, that whatever is flung into it, petrifies. These two Wells are about 300 Paces distant from one another: We went first to the cold one, and having put a Rod, which I used instead of a Horse-whip, into it, I was surprised, when, after having taken it out, I found the End of it, which had touch'd the Ground, turn'd into Iron, and was thereby become very heavy.

From hence we went up to the hot Well: At some Distance we saw a large Number of Birds playing round the Surface; but coming nearer, they all vanish'd; by what our Guide told us, they shoot down the Well, which is above 60 Fathoms deep.

From these Wells we went to the Sea Shore; at some Distance off which, we heard a lamentable Howling and Groaning, as of People in Distress: Our Guide would have vain persuaded us, that it was the Howling and Lamentation of the Damn'd, who, after they had been for some Time tormented with Fire, are put among the Shoals of Ice for some Refreshment; but
when





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when we came near, we found it was nothing but the Wind playing between the Ice-Shoals, which made them rub one against another. This Ice comes driving up at a certain Season of the Year, and vanishes again in a little Time.

CHAP. IV.

*Of the new raised Island in the Archipelago,
near Santorino.*

Santorino is one of the most Southern Islands of the *Archipelago*, about 30 Leagues distant from *Candia*, the ancient *Crete*, so celebrated by the Poets. Its Circumference is about forty-five Miles. The Soil, whose chief Production is Barley, is very dry. The Island is pretty well peopled, and there are in it, besides several smaller, five large Villages.

In the Year 1707, the 23d of *May*, was seen from *Santorino*, about Break of Day, a new Island raised above the Surface of the Water, at about a League's Distance from *Santorino*. The 18th of the Month, they did twice hear (or rather feel) at *Santorino* something like an Earthquake. This was not much heeded at that Time, but it has since

since given Room to think, that this was the very Instant, in which the new Island began to be loosen'd from the Bottom of the Sea. However, the Cliffs or Eminences of this new-born Island were first perceived by Mariners, who, not being able to distinguish exactly what it was, imagined it might be some Wreck, brought thither by the Sea, in the Night. Possess'd with this Thought, and in Hopes of being the first who should reap some Benefit from it, they made the best of their Way towards it, but how great was their Surprise, when, instead of a floating Wreck, they found craggy Rocks and solid Earth! Amazed and frighten'd, they hasten'd back again, telling every Body they met, what they had seen. This strange Piece of News affected the Minds of those that heard it, in a different Manner, according to their different Way of thinking: Some were struck with Consternation, others moved by Curiosity; the new Island was the Subject of every body's Discourse, and engross'd all their Time and Attention. At last, some of them, bolder than the rest, resolved to get as nigh as they could to it, the better to make their Observations. They were a great while going backwards and forwards, and turning round it, carefully examining so uncommon a Production,

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duction. Then, apprehending there was no Danger, they drew nearer and landed. Their Curiosity led them from Rock to Rock, where they found almost every where a Kind of white Stone, that would cut like Bread, and was so like it in Shape, Colour and Consistency, that, till it was tasted, it could be taken for nothing but true wheaten Bread. What pleased them most, as being a very scarce Commodity at *Santorino*, was, great Quantities of fine Oysters that stuck to the Rocks, whereof, after they had made a plentiful Breakfast, they pick'd up as many as they could. Whilst they were employing themselves this Way, on a sudden the Rocks were seen to move, and they felt the Earth tremble under their Feet; they soon abandon'd their intended Cargo, and in great Confusion threw themselves into their Boats. This Motion was owing to the Growth of the Island, which visibly increased every Moment, so as to gain in a very few Days 20 Foot in Height, and about twice as many in Length.

The Motion, whereby the new Island became daily higher and broader, being unequal, the Island itself did not increase equally on all Sides; and it often happen'd, that it sunk and demolish'd in one Place, whilst

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whilst it was raised and extended in another. One Day especially, a Rock, very remarkable for its Make and Size, having sprung out of the Sea, at about forty Paces Distance from the Island, I made it my Business, during four Days, particularly to observe it, after which it sunk into the Sea, and was no more seen: But several others, that had alternately appear'd and disappear'd, remain'd at last fix'd and unmoved. In the mean while the Colour of the surrounding Sea alter'd very much; it was first of a light green; then it grew ruddy, and at last turn'd to a pale yellow. The whole was accompany'd with a very great Stench.

The 16th of *July*, for the first Time, Smoak was seen to issue, not indeed from the Island itself, but from a Ridge or Chain of black Rocks, which suddenly rose up about sixty Paces from it, from a Place in the Sea, where, till then, had been found no Bottom. Thus, for some Time, there were two separate Islands, whereof one was call'd the *White*, and the other the *Black Island*, by reason of their different Colour; but they were not long without reuniting, although in such a Manner, that these black Rocks came to be the Center of the whole Island. The Smoak issuing from them was very thick, and of a whitish Colour,

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lour, like that from a Lime-kiln. It was carried by the Wind upon one of the Habitations situated at the Extremity of the Gulph, where it every where penetrated without doing much Harm, the Smell not being then very offensive.

In the Night, between the 19th and the 20th of *July*, were seen, in the midst of the Smoak, Tongues of Fire, which caused no small Uneasiness to the Inhabitants of *Santorino*, especially those of the Castle of *Scaro*, the most exposed of all, both by its Proximity and natural Situation; being not above half a League distant from the burning Island, and built upon the Brink of a very narrow Promontory, which hangs over a Precipice bounded by the Sea. Now, they had only (as they themselves intimated) this dreadful Alternative to expect, either to be blown up into the Air, by reason of the Veins of combustible Matter, which, as they thought, communicated under the Sea from the new Island to their's, and would soon take Fire, or else be hurl'd into the Sea with their Houses, by some sudden Earthquake, which they hourly expected. Upon this, they were resolving to depart from the Castle, and to retire with their Effects, to some other Island, or at least to change their Habitation, till such
Time

Time as they had seen what this would end in; and indeed several took to this last Resolution, and it was with a good deal of Pains and Trouble that the rest were persuaded to stay. No less intimidated were the *Turks*, who were then at *Santorino*, in order to collect the Tax, yearly paid by this Island to the *Sultan*. Struck with Amazement at the Sight of Fires raised from so deep a Sea (for near this new Island it is sixty Fathoms in Depth) they exhorted every one to pray, and to send Children about the Streets, crying out *Kyrie eleison*, Lord have Mercy upon us: For, said they, these little Children, who have never yet offended God, are much fitter than those come to Man's Estate, to appease his Wrath. Nevertheless, the Fire was not very considerable, issuing only out of a very small Vent in the black Island, and not being discernable in the Day-time.

As for the white Island, whence came neither Fire nor Smoak, it increased very fast, though not so much by a great deal as the other. Large Rocks were daily seen to spring up, which added sometimes to its Length, sometimes to its Breadth; and that so visibly, that this Increase, from one Moment to another, might be very easily perceived. One Day these Rocks touch'd the
Island,

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Island, another, they were at some Distance from it ; insomuch that in less than a Month we reckon'd up four black Islands, which afterwards reunited so as to form but one.

It was also observed, that the Smoak was very much increased, and there being no Wind at that Time, it ascended so high, as to be seen from *Candia*, *Naxos*, and other distant Islands. During the Night, this Smoak look'd like a Column of Fire, 15 or 20 Foot high, and the Sea was cover'd with a Kind of ruddy Scurf in some Places, and with yellow Froth in others ; and so infectious a Smell was spread all over *Santorino*, that they were obliged to burn Perfumes, and kindle Fires through all the Streets. This Stench lasted a Day and a half, and then was blown off by a fresh South-West Gale. But after this Evil came a worse, for the Strength of the Wind drove this hot Vapour upon most of the Vineyards in *Santorino*, whereby the Grapes, which were just ripe, were all parch'd up in one Night. This too was observed, that wherever this Vapour reach'd, it sullied both Plate and Copper, and caused violent Head-achs, attended with Reachings. About the same Time, the white Island, press'd down by its own Weight, sunk at once ten Foot.

The

The 31st of *July*, the Sea was observed to cast Smoak and to bubble near the black Island, in two several Places, in both which the Water form'd a perfect Circle, and look'd like Oil when set on Fire. This lasted for above a Month, during which Time was found upon the Beach Abundance of dead Fish.

The following Night, we heard a Kind of deaf hollow Noise, like the distant Report of several Cannons, and immediately after sprung up from the midst of the Furnace two long Squibs, or Lances of Fire, which rose to a very great Height, and then were presently extinguish'd in the Air.

The first of *August*, the same hollow Sound was at several Times again heard; it was followed by a Smoak, not white as heretofore, but of a bluish black, and which, notwithstanding a pretty fresh northern Gale, sprung up, in the Shape of a Column, to a prodigious Height. Had it been Night, I verily believe this long Column of Smoak would, like the abovemention'd, have appear'd all in Fire.

The 7th of *August*, the Noise was no longer hollow; it rather resembled that which would be occasion'd by several huge Fragments of Stone falling all together into a deep Well; it was probably caused by
some

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some large Rocks, which at first clung to the Island, but afterwards loosen'd from it, and plunged down again by their own Weight. What help'd to confirm me in this Thought is, that whilst the Noise lasted, I saw the Extremity of the Island in a perpetual Motion, the Rocks seemingly moving to and fro, disappearing and then appearing anew. However it be, to this Noise, after it had lasted several Days, succeeded a much stronger, and which was so much like Thunder, that it could hardly be distinguish'd from three or four real Claps, which happen'd much about the same Time.

The 21st of *August*, the Fire and Smoak were considerably diminish'd, insomuch that at Night it was hardly perceivable; but the 22^d, at Sun-rising, it broke out with more Fury than ever. The Vapour was red and very thick, and the Heat caused thereby so intense, that all round the Island the Sea smoak'd and bubbled up in a surprising Manner. At Night, I had the Curiosity to observe these several Fires through a Telescope. Besides the large Furnace burning upon the highest Part of the Island, I reckon'd up sixty smaller, that emitted a clear lively Flame, and in all Likelihood there might be as many more on the other Side of the Island.

The

The 23d of *August*, in the Morning, I found the Island was much higher than the Day before, and that its Breadth was increased by a Chain of Rocks sprung out in the Night-time, near fifty Foot above the Water. Besides, the Sea was once more cover'd with the reddish Scurf abovemention'd, from which exhaled an insufferable ill Smell.

The 5th of *September*, the Fire burst out at the Extremity of the black Island, on that Side towards *Therassia*, which some Authors assert to have been formerly join'd to *Santorino*, from which it was divided by an Earthquake, that let in the Sea, and of one Island made two. From this Vent, the Fire issued for several Days, during which there came but very little out of the large Furnace.

Had not a constant Uneasiness, at so melancholly a Situation, taken away all Relish for Diversion, we saw at that Time what would certainly have afforded a great deal, viz. Three large Streams of Fire, that rose three several Times to a vast Height, and form'd three most beautiful Sky Rockets of a glowing lively red. The following Night the Scene changed: After several Claps of the subterraneous Thunder, at once appear'd a thousand, as it were, glittering Sheaves of Fire, scattering Light on all

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all Sides, which afterwards coming to break and disperse, fell, in the Shape of Stars, like a Shower upon the Island, which appeared all in a Blaze, and offer'd to the Spectators astonish'd Sight the most horrid, but, at the same Time, the most beautiful Illumination imaginable. To these natural Fire-works, succeeded a different Phenomenon, which, by the Inhabitants of *Santorino*, whose Minds were already depress'd by Fear, were taken for a very bad Omen. This was a Kind of Meteor, which for a long while remain'd unmoved over the Castle of *Scaro*, and then lost itself in the Clouds.

The 9th of *September*, the two Islands, both the white and the black, perpetually increasing, came to unite and join into one. And after this Junction, the western Extremity of the Island daily increased in Length.

Of all these different Openings, of which I have already spoken, there were but four left that emitted Flames, which came out with great Impetuosity, and the roaring within was at some Times not unlike the Sound of the biggest Pipe of an Organ, at others, you would have thought you heard the Howlings of wild Beasts.

The 12th of *September*, the subterraneous
Noise

Noise augmented very much, and although it had four Openings to discharge itself, yet it had never been so dreadful nor so frequent as that Day and the following. The redoubled Strokes, like the general Volley of the great Guns of a numerous Army, were repeated ten or twelve Times in four and twenty Hours, and a Moment after each Clap, issued out from the large Furnace red hot Stones of an enormous Bulk, which were cast at a vast Distance into the Sea.

These Claps were always follow'd by a thick Smoak, which coming to disperse, scatter'd every where Clouds of Ashes, whereof some were carried as far as *Anesi*, an Island 25 Miles distant from *Santorino*. I had the Curiosity to take up some of these Ashes; upon black they appear'd whitish, and upon white almost black. As they were much of the same Figure and Grain with fine Gunpowder, I threw some of them into the Fire; but they only made a Kind of crackling, without any Flame.

The 18th of *September*, an Earthquake was felt at *Santorino*, that did no great Damage, but the new Island received thereby a considerable Increase, as well as the Fire and Smoak, which, that Day and the Night following, burst out through several new Crevices. Hitherto, I had not seen
so

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so many Fires together, nor heard such terrible Claps, the Violence whereof was so great, that you would have thought every House in *Scaro* had been shaken to the Ground. From the midst of a dark and thick Smoak, which look'd like a Mountain, was heard the crashing of an infinite Number of huge Stones, which form'd in the Air the same roaring Noise as large Cannon Balls, and afterwards rebounded back again upon the Island and into the Sea. A small neighbouring Island was several Times cover'd with these glowing hot Stones, which made it look all in a Blaze, insomuch that the first Time we saw it, we imagined, from the Proximity of the two Islands, that the Fire had pass'd under the Sea, from one to the other; but we were mistaken: All this proceeded from those Stones being skim'd over with Sulphur, and that being consumed, they ceased to burn in less than half an Hour.

The 21st of *September*, the small adjacent Island being also in Flames, after one of those terrible Claps already mention'd, very great Lightnings ensued, which in a Moment flew from one End of the Horizon to the other. At the same Instant the new Island was so terribly shaken, that one Half of the large Furnace came tumbling

down, and burning Rocks of a prodigious Size were driven off above two Miles. We all thought this last and violent Effort had drain'd and exhausted the Mine : We were confirm'd in this Opinion by four Days of Tranquillity and Calmness, during which, there was not the least Appearance of Fire or Smoak.

The 25th of *September*, the Fire broke out again with more Fury than ever. Among the almost continual Claps, which were so violent, that two Persons standing close together could hardly hear one another speak, there was one so dreadful and terrible, that the Churches were presently fill'd with Crouds of People, expecting each Moment would be their last ; the Doors and Gates of Houses flew open, and the huge Rock, upon which stood the Castle of *Scaro*, stagger'd to and fro.

In order to avoid useless Repetitions, I shall observe once for all, that this continued during the Months of *October*, *November* and *December*, 1707 ; and *January*, 1708, the large Furnace, without one Day's Intermission, emitted Stones and Flames, at least once or twice, but oftener five or six Times a Day.

The 10th of *February*, 1708, about 8 o'Clock in the Morning, was felt at *Santo-rino*,

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rino, a pretty strong Earthquake. The Night before there had been one of much less Force, which made us judge from the Experience of what was past, that more Havock and Destruction was preparing in the Bowels of the *Volcano*. We then were not long in Expectation of it; Fire, Flames, Smoak, redoubled Claps like Thunder; in short, nothing but Horror and Confusion was seen and heard. Rocks of an amazing Bulk, which till now had only appear'd just above the Water, now tower'd to the Skies, and the Sea raged to such an Excess, that although we were pretty well accustom'd to it, there were none amongst us, but what it threw into the utmost Consternation.

The subterraneus Bellowings were no longer heard by Intervals only; for Night or Day they never ceased. In less than a Quarter of an Hour there were six or seven Eruptions from the large Furnace. The Horror of the repeated Claps, the Quantity of huge Stones which flew every Way, the Houses tottering to their very Foundations, and the Fire which now appear'd in open Day, surpass'd whatever we had seen before.

The 15th of *April* was remarkable for the Number and Fury of these repeated

Strokes and Noises : Infomuch that for a long Time our Eyes discovering Nothing but Flames and fiery Smoak, the Fragments of Rocks thrown up in the Air, we imagined that all was at an End, and that the Island itself had been blown up, and was totally destroy'd by these violent Explosions ; but we were far from being right in our Guess. The Cause of this violent Uproar, was the Fall of half the Circumference of the large Furnace, which however quickly grew as high as it was before, being repaired by the vast Quantities of Ashes and large Stones it had thrown up, and that were gather'd in great Heaps round it.

From that Day to the 23d of *May*, was the Anniversary of the Birth of the new Island, every Thing continuing upon the same Footing. What appear'd to me most worthy Notice was, that the Island still continued to grow in Height, but had ceased increasing its Breadth. The wide Mouth or large Furnace was rear'd very high, and the melted Matter, which I take to have been Sulphur or Vitriol, coming to cake, whereby this huge Fabrick was knit and join'd together, form'd, over the Opening, a Kind of Crust, with a broad Slope or Shelving.

Afterwards

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Afterwards every Thing by Degrees grew more calm, the Fire and Smoak subsided, and the subterraneous Thunder grew less terrible. This, in all Probability, was owing to the Want of any more combustible Matter, which had served as Fuel to keep up the Fire, as likewise to the several Openings being widen'd.

The 15th of *July*, I put in Execution a Design I had long since form'd, of taking a close View of the Island. It was a very fine Day, the Sea was calm, and the Fires very moderate. I engaged in this Party Monsignor *Francis Crispo*, the *Latin* Bishop, and some other Ecclesiasticks, who had the same Curiosity as myself. In order to this, we provided a Galley-Boat well calk'd, with double Oakum beaten in between the Planks. As we had agreed to land, if possible, in the Island, we made directly towards it, on that Side where the Sea did not bubble, but where it smok'd very much. We were hardly got into this Smoak, when we all felt a close sweltry Heat, and which did almost suffocate us. We put our Hands into the Water, and found it scalding hot, and yet we were half a Mile distant from our intended landing Place.

There not being the least Probability we could go on any farther on that Side, we

made towards the Point of the Island, which was the farthest distant from the large Furnace, on which Side the growing Island had all along very much increased in Length. The Fires, which still continued to burn, and the boiling up of the Sea, obliged us to take a great Compass, notwithstanding which we felt the Air about us excessively hot. After we had sail'd round it, we at last went ashore in the Island close adjoining to it, whence we had Time enough to examine (without Danger) what was the true Length of the new Island, and particularly the Side which we could not discover from *Scaro*. The Island was of an oblong Figure or Shape; its greatest Height at that Time might be about 200 Foot, its greatest Breadth a little above a Mile, and its Circumference five Miles. After we had spent an Hour, or more, in surveying every Thing with Care, we could not forbear attempting once more to land: and we chose that Place, which, as has been said, had been long call'd the *White Island*. Several Months were past without any Alteration in that Place, wherein besides had never been seen either Fire or Smoak. So we set all Hands to work, and row'd that Way. We sounded, and found 65 Fathoms, but for Want of Rope could

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could go no deeper. Whilst we were consulting whether we should proceed or go back, the large Furnace discharged itself with its usual Fury; and to compleat our Misfortune, a fresh Gale blew directly into our Faces a large Parcel of Ashes and Smoak, happy were we that nothing else came along with it! It would have made any Body laugh to see the Pickle we were in, and how like Devils this Shower of Ashes made us look. We made the best of our Way Home again, and we could not do it more opportunely; for we were hardly a Mile and a half at Sea, when the Eruption began afresh, and threw into the very Place, we had but just left, great Numbers of burning Stones. Besides, when we were got to *Santorino*, our Sailors made us observe, that the excessive Heat of the Water had melted almost all the Pitch from our Boat, which began to take Water on all Sides.

To conclude: This new Island has continued burning ever since, but has made much less Havock and Noise than heretofore.

C H A P. V.

*Of some remarkable Curiosities discover'd at
Herenhausen, near Hanover.*

WHEN some Years ago a Canal was digging behind the royal Pleasure-Garden of *Herenhausen*, there were discover'd several remarkable Curiosities; of which the following are the Particulars.

1. It is well known that the River *Leine*, which flows through *Hanover*, has not only high Banks, but without the City is ranged, though at some Distance, with Hillocks, from which the Clay being wash'd down, the adjoining lower Grounds were, by the overflowing of the River, cover'd with a fat brown Clay, which is used in making of Bricks. This Clay is mix'd with some Sand, and is about three Foot deep.

2. In the middle of the Canal, directly opposite to the right Wing of the royal Garden, was a Hillock, in which, when they came to remove it, they found near the Surface thereof two large Urns with Ashes. One of them happen'd to be broke by the Carelessness of the Labourers, the other I had presented to me whole, and put
it

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it up in my Musæum. It holds a large Pail of Water: The Neck is narrow, and the Body or lower Part of it is round or spherical: It has the Colour of a grey Clay, and is not baked in the Furnace, but seems to be only dry'd in the Sun: The Ashes therein were like Mould.

3. Next to these Urns were several Ruins of Walls, also a plaister'd Ceiling damaged by Fire; likewise a large Quantity of Coals. They found several Vaults, and a great Number of human Skulls and Bones. In one Place they found a Heap of Iron Darts or Bolts, used in shooting with Bows. The Building must have been consumed by Fire; which is plain from the damaged Ceiling, and the Coals that were remaining.

4. But to return again to the Strata's of Earth: They found at the Fore-part of the Canal, towards *Hanover*, next to the above-mention'd Earth, several Strata's of grey and yellow Sand: Under these there were several Beds of grey Clay, in which lay buried large Trees; some were Willows, some Beech, and others Oak. The Clay was mix'd with a little Sand, and a large Quantity of Muscle-shells; among which were some of a very large Kind, not unlike Mother of Pearl; but those large ones were most of them calcined, and I

could preserve only one that was entire.

5. Under this Clay it was full of Springs, and there were found several Strata's of Vitriol Sand, as likewise some Beds of Clay, Muscles, and coarse Sand, pretty much confused together.

6. Beneath this appear'd a Streak of Pebbles and Flint-Stones, mix'd with some large Pebble-Stones. Most of the Flints, when broke in two, were full of petrified Sea Muscles, of various Sorts: Some were fill'd with Coral Branches; some have only the Impression of the Sea Igle; in others they remain in their natural Proportion. In some of the Flint Stones I have found a Sulphur Ore; all which plainly shews that these Stones were torn off by a great Flood, and brought thither; which is the more probable, since none of the Sea Igles and Sea-Stars are found in the neighbouring Seas. Of the Sea-Igles there has been an innumerable Quantity, since most Part of the *Hanover* Country is fill'd with them.

7. Under the Pebbles and Flints there was a Bed of coarse Pebble Sand, in which partly, and within the Clay, lay a Number of large Oak Trees, apparently torn up from the Roots by a violent Storm. The Roots were still standing upright in the Ground,

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Ground, and the Stem lying next them, pointing S. E.

8. Between these large Trees were found several human Skulls, fill'd with Pebbles; likewise a large Shoulder-Bone, supposed to have been of some large foreign Animal; which Sort of Shoulder and other Bones are frequently found under-ground farther up the Country.

9. The River *Leine* being damm'd up, and the Water drain'd into the Canal, in order to dig six Foot deeper than the Canal, for the Building of a Sluice; the first Strata consisted of a white Sand, which was mix'd with a stiff grey Clay, and likewise with Pebbles and Flint; under which we found much larger Trees than before, and apparent Marks of more underneath them. Among these Trees was found a Pair of Stag's Horns, with a Piece of the Skull.

From this Account we may reasonably suppose,

1. That this Country was once a Forest inhabited by wild Beasts only: For the Jaw-bones, which make the larger Quantity, are those of Wolves, but none is found of either Horse, Ox or Sheep.

2. Perhaps there might have been a few Inhabitants, because of the human Skulls;
but

but it is very likely, that those Sculls may be of such Bodies as were wash'd on Shore from distant Countries.

3. That, besides the great Deluge, there have since happen'd several others; which appears from the several Strata's of Earth, and the different Sorts of Muscle or Snail-shells found in them; which is in one Place so plain to be seen, that one may distinguish every Strata by the different Kind of Shells. In the lowermost, or Clay Ground, are found large Muscle-shells, and the Bones of various Kinds of Sea Fish. The second Strata has all Sorts of Snail-shells, Pieces of Coral, &c. In the third are found Plants, which have been immersed in their Blossom, and of which the Impression plainly appears in the Stone.

Before I conclude, I must take Notice, that the Wood which was found is exceeding hard, and cannot be cut by an ordinary Tool. The Trees were crusted over with Iron Ore, and the Roots almost transform'd into that Mineral. I took, for Curiosity's Sake, a Piece of Wood with me, and laid it in my Chamber; in the Morning I found it cover'd with a strange Sort of black Worms: Having shook them off into the Street, and laid the Wood down again on the Floor of my Chamber, I found it a little

little while after cover'd again with the same Kind of Worms : Thus I continued till all the Wood was clear of them, concluding it had an electric Quality to draw those Insects from behind the Hangings, with which the Walls of the Room were cover'd.

That the Sea, at the Time of this great Inundation, was not so far distant from the *Hanoverian* Dominions as it now is, may be conjectured from the Beds of Sea-Oysters, which are found in several Places near the River *Leine* ; as likewise of the Sea Snails, and other natural Productions, found on the Beaches or Shores of the Sea.

C H A P. VI.

Of the most noted CATARACTS and WATER-FALLS in the World.

THAT there are great Numbers of Hollows, Whirlpools, and Cataracts in the Depth of the great Ocean, is undeniable ; but they, except a few near us, being hid from the Eyes of curious Inquirers, nothing certain can be alledged concerning them. I shall therefore only shew the ingenious Reader the most noted Cataracts
in

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in several great Rivers of the known World ;
and first of all,

*The great CATARACT or WATER-FALL of
the River Rhine.*

This is about two Miles from *Shafhausen*, near the Convent call'd *Lauffen* : After the Stream has forced its Way between high Rocks and Cliffs (which are on both Sides, and in the middle of the River) for the Space of upwards of 500 Paces, and where it begins its Emotion, fomenting and whirling with great Vehemence, till it flings itself at the aforesaid Place with a dreadful and horrible Noise down a craggy Rock, the upper Fall goes shelving down, and is broke by shooting from one Rock upon another, into thousands of Turnings and Windings ; till coming to three spiring Rocks, above 100 Foot off, it then falls perpendicular, and by the vehement Force thereof creates so much Froth, as to recoil into the Air like a Mist or small Rain, which in a sunshiny Day represents a most beautiful Rainbow.

The main or perpendicular Fall is 75 Foot high. There are several other Cataracts in this River ; but that being the principal, I omit the rest, and proceed to

The

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The CATARACTS of the River Danube.

One whereof is near the City of *Lintz*, in *Upper Austria*, which on Account of its rappid Current between the hidden Rocks, and the whirling Motions, makes that Part of the River very dangerous for the Vessels which are obliged to pass by it.

Another Fall in the *Danube* more dangerous than the former, is near the Town of *Greina*. Here the River shoots over a hidden Rock, with great Emotion and Vehemence. The Vessels, which must pass this Place, keep as close as possible to the northern Strand, in order to shun the Danger wherewith this horrible Prospect threatens them.

The third is known by the Name of the *Whirlpool* in that River; this is not above 200 Paces from the former, and swallows a great Quantity of Water, which, as Father *Kircher* will have it, empties itself again in a Sea in *Lower Hungary*. Certain it is, that the *Danube* loses much Water at this Place, so that lower down, towards the City of *Vienna*, it has not near so much as it has above it.

The

The Velinam CATARACT, in the Dutchy of Spoleto, in Italy.

This Cataract is between the *Adriatick* or *Venetian* Sea, and the *Apennine* Mountains, not far from the great *Wind-Hill*, which is about two Leagues long, and has a great many Rents, Caverns and Holes, from which in the four Summer Months, *May, June, July* and *August*, issues forth a great and boisterous Wind; which, like Water, is convey'd by Pipes to the Apartments and Cellars of the Inhabitants of that City, in order to defend themselves from the excessive Heat; but in the Winter Months it is of a contrary Nature, when those Rents and Holes will draw the Air in with great Force. Near this Hill is the River *Velinam* seen to fling itself with the most vehement Impetuosity down a very high Rock into a deep Valley. This Fall of Water, as *Kircher* has measured it, is 300 Foot high, and causes such a terrible Noise, that a Person would run the Risk of losing their Hearing to come near it; it may be heard above five *Italian* Miles off. He that advances towards it, will find himself to be in a continual Mist, and though at a good Distance, all over wet, when he gets out of it.

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it. In sunshiny Weather, a Rainbow presents itself to the Spectators in most beautiful Colours.

The Gothland CATARACT.

About six Leagues distant from *Gottenburg* in *Sweden*, is a Place where the River of the same Name throws itself from a prodigious high Precipice into a deep Pit, with a terrible Noise, and such a mighty Force, that the Mafts, which are floating down the River to *Gottenburg*, usually turn topsy-turvy in their Fall, and often fly to Pieces, when dash'd against the Surface of the Water in the Pit: This happens, if the Mafts fall side-ways on the Water; but if they fall end-ways, they dive so far under Water, that they are a Quarter of an Hour before they rise again; some Half an Hour, others three Quarters of an Hour; and some a whole Hour and upwards: The Pit into which they fall, has been often sound-ed with a Line of several hundred Fathoms in Length, but they could never find any Bottom.

The Nieper CATARACT.

About fifty Miles from the Frontier Town *Kyof*, the River *Nieper* having flow'd
between

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between an uneven, rocky, winding Part, falls near that Place, as it were, by Steps, and like a Cascade; then divides itself into many Branches, and forms above 70 large and small Islands; the larger are inhabited by the *Cossacks*, where they keep themselves intrench'd, and prepared against the Incurfions of the *Tartars*, who now and then pay them a Visit, though they are often obliged to return with nothing else but bloody Noses.

The Finland CATARACTS,

Are so call'd, on Account of their emptying themselves into *Finland* Bay. The first of these Water-falls is that of the River *Bek*, or *Narva*, which is as large as the *Elbe* in *Saxony*; about two Miles from the City of *Narva*, it flings itself from a high Rock into several Currents, and the Ships which come from *Pleskow*, *Derpt*, and other Parts, must be unloaded at the Bottom of this Cataract, and by Land Carriage the Goods are sent up to the City of *Narva*.

The second Water-fall is about a Mile and a Half from *Ladoga*, a well fortified *Muscovite* City: Here the River *Wolockda*, which is also about as broad as the *Elbe*, falls.

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falls down a rocky Precipice, and is broke by several pointing Rocks, which rise above the Surface of the River.

Six Miles from *Wiburgh* in *Clarelen*, the River *Woxa* flings itself with great Precipitation down the rented Rocks; the Height of this Fall is about 300, and the Breadth about 100 Foot: The roaring Noise of the Water will frighten both Horse and Man to come near it; and it makes the Hills, Trees, and the Ground under your Feet shake and tremble.

The CATARACTS of the River Nile in Egypt.

Of these are two noted ones; the one *Numidia*, at *Ilack*, and the other above *Siene*, in *Egypt*, they being twelve Days Journey from each other. The former, after the *Nile* has flow'd through *Numidia*, rolls off a Rock into a vast Abyfs, with so horrid a Noise, that after the *Persians* had planted a Colony in that Neighbourhood, in a pleasant and fruitful District, they were made almost deaf with it, and were glad to abandon their Habitations, though otherwise plentifully provided with all Necessaries of Life. The Noise of this Cataract may be heard three Days Journey off, and the
Waters

Waters which rush down, appear like Smoak, being forced with such great Violence, that they form a Kind of Arch, and leave so great a Space between, that a Man may pass it without being wet; there are under the Rock, Seats cut out, where Travellers may rest themselves: The Height of this Cataract is about two hundred Foot, not perpendicular, but somewhat slanting, which makes the Noise almost to resemble the roaring and turbulent Waves of the Sea, heard by such as stand on Shore. As the *Nile* begins to rise, so the Noise increases according as the Water grows higher.

The other Cascade or Water-fall rolls from two aspiring pointed Rocks, fifty Foot high, with a vast Torrent, into *Upper Egypt*; then running from South to North leisurely, divides itself into two different Branches, the one emptying itself Eastward into the *Mediterranean*, and the other inclining Westward falls into the same Sea, making the Island *Delta* the most fertile Part of all *Egypt*.

The great River *Niger* in *Africa*, which, as some Authors will have it, has its Source together with the River *Nile*, is in many Places not navigable, on Account of the many Cliffs and Rocks. Among the rest is one Cataract, which by the Inhabitants
is





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is call'd *Barto*, or *Arch*, because the Torrent from the high Rock forms an Arch, through which People may travel, without being the least wetted, except the Wind was to blow strong against it.

The exceeding broad River *Zaire* or *Congo*, in *Africa*, is not above fifty Miles navigable, on Account of several great Water-falls, down the high Rocks, which may be heard at twelve Miles Distance.

The Asiatic WATER-FALLS.

A certain Author informs us, that the River *Arexes*, near the Village *Ordabad*, has a prodigious high Cascade; the Noise whereof may be heard above five Miles distant.

The great River *Ganges*, after it has pass'd from its Spring, which is in the Southern Part of *Great Tartary*, flings itself from high towering Rocks into *India*, where the Inhabitants worship that River as a Deity.

The WATER-FALLS in China.

In the Province of *Xansi*, near *Pengiao*, is a great Water-fall, the Noise whereof may be heard several Miles off.

In

In the Province of *Kiangsi*, not far from the City *Nanchang*, is the Mountain *Peckany*, which signifies the *Mountain of Kindred Rocks*, because the Water runs from its Summit with great Impetuosity on a great Number of Rocks.

In the River *Chuem*, which flows near *Xanking* through steep and cragged Rocks, are thirty-six Cataracts, which roll from the Rocks with a continual roaring and hideous Noise.

The River *Yao*, in its Passage by the City *Liniao*, makes a fearful Noise, resembling that of Thunder.

Near the City *Choxang*, is the River *Xangung*, in which is a great Fall of Water, and when at any Time a Stone is flung into it, it will cause a Noise like Thunder, and is counted a Prodigy in Nature.

Near the City *Hoeicheu* flows the River *Singan*, which has at least 360 Water-shoots falling into it between Rocks and Mountains.

The Great CATARACTS in America.

In *South America*, in the Continent of *Guiana*, is the River *Charles*, in the District of *Cuporepana*, which has a Cataract that flings itself over ten different Rocks
one

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one after another; the Noise it occasions is frightful, and the Force of the Fall repels the Water back, and turns it into a continual Rain, which at a Distance appears to rise in Clouds.

The large River *St. Francis* is navigable for forty or fifty *German* Miles, but then falls down an incredible high Rock, with such a terrible Noise, as would, if near, strike one deaf. Beyond this Height, the River is also navigable for many Miles, and forms towards North-East a large Sea or Lake, wherein are several inhabited and very fruitful Islands.

In the inland Parts, near the *Amazon* River, are several Territories, in which are rich Mines. The *Spaniards* in a large Body, under the Command of Admiral *Adulando*, repair'd thither, though to little Purpose; they sail'd along in great Danger, till they arrived to a Cataract, which fell from two astonishing high Rocks into a terrible Hollow, which they were obliged to pass; however, the Thirst after Gold made them venture; and being come so near the Country they were bound to, they resolved not to return on Account of Danger, and rather hazard their Lives, than be look'd upon as Cowards: They committed themselves to Providence, and down they went, taking fast hold of their Vessels,
which

which by the Force of the Fall sunk almost to the Bottom of the River, but at some Distance came up, and most of these Adventurers arrived safe on Shore, except a few, who, perhaps through Dread, had lost their Hold, and were drown'd.

A certain Author informs us, that in the Year 1555, some very high Rocks and Hills fell into that River, by which the Current was stop'd in its natural Course, and for three Days laid all the neighbouring Countries, thirty six Miles round, under Water, till it came to its proper Height, when it flung itself over the broken Rocks with a dreadful Cataract.

The River *Aperwake* in *Guiana* gave the *Spaniards* great Hopes to go up the Inland, but they were soon convinced that the great Cataracts would not suffer them to pursue their Intent.

The River *Parana*, which flows not far from the *Spanish Town Real*, shoots over exceeding high Rocks, down 200 Fathoms; the Noise it occasions is astonishing, and no Vessels must pretend to come within four or five Miles near it, without running the Hazard of being carried down to the Bottom.

In *North America* are only three great Cataracts discover'd: One is found towards
Guadalajara,

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Guadalajara, a *Spanish* City, in the River *Barriana*, and falls from a high Declivity with great Force and Noise.

Powhatan, a very large River in *Virginia*, is 600 Miles navigable; but no Ship can be brought farther, on Account of the large Cliffs and Rocks, which shew themselves above the Water.

In *New Holland*, a Province of *North America*, is a River, which is call'd the *North River*, and has a Cataract 200 Foot high, which falls down with such a Declivity, as though it were a perpendicular Tower. The whole Cascade, in Appearance, is no other than a blue Rock, surrounded at the Bottom of the River by spiring Rocks, some eight, sixteen, and others thirty Foot high, which at some Distance affords no disagreeable Prospect.

The wild *Americans*, when they come near this Place, make on Shore, and take their Canoes, which are made of the Bark of Trees, on their Backs, and travel by Land, till they see that they may safely venture to make Use of them again. There have been Examples, that in case they have not made to Land in Time, they have been haul'd down the Precipice upon the Rocks below, and dash'd in pieces.

C H A P. VII.

*The Cause and Effect of THUNDER and
LIGHTNING.*

IF we inquire into the Cause of Thunder and Lightning, we shall find most Naturalists agree, that it is a nitrous Vapour, exhaled in the Air, and pent up in Clouds in various Forms, sometimes not unlike a Train of Gunpowder, and whenever it happens to take Fire, it runs from Place to Place, according as the Vapour leads it, and then vents itself with an Explosion. If these Vapours are high in the Air and at a great Distance from us, little or no Hurt is to be apprehended from them; but, if these Clouds, so pregnant with nitrous Particles, are near us, they give us Cause to dread some fatal Consequences, as the killing of Men or Cattle, splitting of Trees, demolishing of Houses, or the like. The Distance of such Clouds may, in some Measure, be computed by the Interval of Time between the Thunder-claps, which are sometimes, when the Vapours are high, about seven or eight Seconds, or half a Quarter of a Minute; at other Times much sooner.

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sooner. And the Distance of Time between the Thunder and Lightning will not exceed above a Second or two; and at such Times the Explosion must be very near, or even amongst us; in such Cases, very mischievous Consequences have ensued, of which there are numberless Instances.

That in Lightning there is a sulphurous Vapour, may be easily perceived from that Smell which accompanies it, especially when any Mischief is done by it: A sultry Heat in the Air is commonly a Forerunner of Lightning; and that there is also a nitrous Vapour therein, we may reasonably conclude, because no other Body is capable of so sudden and violent an Explosion as Nitre: The Chymists have observed, that a Mixture of Steel-filings, Sulphur, and a little Water, will of itself break out into a Flame, from which we may easily conjecture, that these Clouds only want some Vitriol-Vapour, to produce the Effect of Lightning and Thunder.

The principal Operations and Effects of Lightning are grounded on two Phænomenas. 1. On a very subtile fiery Essence and Power. Secondly, on an incredible swift Motion. By Virtue of the first, it kindles and melts; and by Virtue of the other it penetrates; and this, in Proportion

tion to the Quantity of the before-mentioned Materials; and the Effects of the latter are certainly so wonderful, that they are beyond our Comprehension, whether the Materials of Lightning are sometimes more subtile, or at another less pure, or mix'd with other Matter. Should we inquire whether the Lightning keeps together, and strikes upon one Point only, and at other Times disperses, and extends itself, as once a poor Peasant experienced it, when it enter'd thro' a little Hole of his Coat on his Breast, and flead him from Head to Foot, without doing any Damage to his Cloaths; we might possibly discover the true Reasons, why such an expanded Lightning was neither capable of Explosion nor of Burning. How the Effects of the dark Thunder is to be explain'd, by which the Bones of an Animal are burnt and destroy'd, without the Skin being hurt, is of an amazing Nature.

I will, for Instance, only relate an extraordinary Case, which happen'd in *June*, 1718, in the *Prignitz* in *Germany*, to eight Sheep; the Account whereof was communicated to the Publick from a learned Physician, to this Effect: We had, says he, *June* the 15th, from S. W. several dark Cloud., attended with a great Shower of
Rain,

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Rain, and terrible Thunder and Lightning, in which were observed two surprising dreadful Claps; the last whereof struck between five and six o'Clock into the Dispensatory, yet without kindling, and without any other Hurt, but that the fore Front of the House, which is Stone, had a Seam or Streak from Top to Bottom, and here and there whole Stones were torn out of it; but what was the most surprising to observe, was this: Twelve Sheep that were just the Moment before drove from the Field to Town, had taken Shelter from the Rain near this House: When the Lightning and Clap of Thunder was observed, all the Sheep fell down to the Ground, as if they had been struck dead; however, four of them got up again in a little while, and went away; but they reel'd like drunken Men; for having advanced two or three Steps, they stagger'd with the fourth and fell down; however, they recover'd, but the rest were actually dead. As that Place was not without poor People, several came about them, flead the Sheep in Hopes to feast upon their Flesh, because not the least Hurt was perceived about them, but when they came to cut them up, in order to roast and boil, they found, to their great Surprise and Disappointment, that all the Bones of

the Sheep were reduced to Powder, as if beaten in a Mortar, which Powder had dispersed itself into the Flesh in such Manner, that not one Morsel could be found which was not fill'd with this Bone-Dust, whereby it was render'd unfit for eating.

Another wonderful Operation of Lightning happen'd the same Year, *June* the 19th, in *Trebnitz*, on an Oak, the Lightning not falling directly down, but in a circular Form twisting about the Stem of that Tree, as may be seen in the Plate, p. 196, Fig. 2. This Account was given by the Pastor of the Place where it happen'd. The Flash began to scale the Tree at the Top, and continued Snail-like so to do to the Root thereof, as, *a, b, c,* and *d*, plainly demonstrates. The Rent of the Bark was in one Place wider than at another, which at last extended itself to eighteen Inches; when, on the contrary, the Bark from *d* to *e* was not so much tore off, as separated; the Grooves where the Lightning had taken its Course were, as by a running Fire, burnt black, and were deeper in the Middle than the Sides. The Groove was about a Hand's Breadth; till at *e* it began to extend, and was widest at *f*, which Part was even with the Ground; but when the Earth was dug deeper about the Stem, it was

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was found to have penetrated to *g* and *i*.

Another terrible Instance of Thunder and Lightning we have an Account of from *Zurich, May 30, 1718*. The Air was in the Forenoon very hot and sultry, here and there was perceived a little Cloud, towards the Evening the Heavens were cover'd with black Clouds, and a heavy Rain ensued between seven and eight o'Clock, accompanied with Thunder and Lightning, which was heard till Midnight, with repeated terrible Claps; the most shocking was a few Minutes before eight, which fell upon a House, standing on the highest Place of the City, where, through the Chimney, it beat in with a most surprising Report; presently was observed a bluish Flame to come out of the Chimney, which was a Sign the Soot was kindled; hereupon it flung the Cape or Covering of the Chimney at the North Part, into the Street. This Flash of Lightning produced several strange Effects: First, in the Garret it broke the Window-shutters and Frames into Splinters, without doing the least Hurt to the Glass Windows themselves. In the third Story from below, this Lightning shewed its particular Influence in two Apartments; in one it came down the Chimney, and beat

the Chimney-Piece and Hearth all to Pieces, then it went towards the Window, and forced itself out by breaking the Glass, without hurting the Lead, some of the Panes that were left in were bent, the other fell against the Wall, and seem'd to make its Way through the Floor; in the other Apartment the Flash entered, by means of a Hole it bored through the upper Corner of the Window-shutters, which then were shut; in two Windows the Panes of Glass were scattered about in little Pieces, except two, on which were painted the Arms of the Abbot of the Convent of *Wettingen*; at the same time it made a Rent in the Wall, as though it would force its Way through it; but being opposed, it drew back, and went along the Iron Rod, to which the Panes of the Glass of the Window were fastened, melted the Leaden Rings upon it, and took off the red Colour with which it was painted. We come now to the second Floor, where was seen a Scene of the Goodness and Power, if not the Anger of God! Here one of the Rooms was made into a Kitchen; the Lightning struck down the Chimney, beat down the hung Beef that was in it, and buried it among the Rubbish and Stones; the Spit, which hung in the usual Place, was turned into a Serpentine Figure; the Glass-Windows

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dows were torn out, and such as were left were of a bluish Hue, as if coloured with Smoak; Pewter Dishes had their Rims melted, and the Earthen Ware was all broke to Pieces in their Stands, and the Walls were here and there much damaged. And notwithstanding the Flashes of Lightning flew from one Place to another in this Kitchen, yet through the Mercy of God, neither the Mistress nor her Servants were in the least hurt thereby: These Effects seem'd to be occasioned partly by the Flash which came down the Chimney, and partly by another which came descending along the inner Wall. But the most dreadful Scene was acted in the Chamber, in which the Flash entered at the upper Corner of the Window, towards the North; some of the Panes of Glass were shattered to Pieces, and others were stained with a Smoak Colour. At the Bottom of the Window stood a little Cylindric Vessel, made of Tin, which was part of the Children's Toys. The upper Rim of it was melted all round, and the other Parts were full of Holes; nevertheless it remain'd unmoved in the Place where it stood, by which we may form a Judgment of the surprising Swiftness of Lightning; whereupon the Flash turned itself, and went through the Corner of a

Sideboard, and through a vaulted Roof in the lower Floor; near this Corner stood a Table, and the Gentleman's Daughter, who was dressing the Child, sat next it, who, except the Surprise, received no other Damage: But the Son, who was 30 Years of Age, and had been but a few Minutes before come home, sitting unhappily near a Window that projected, had only just Time to call upon his Redeemer, and was heard no more, but was suffocated without having the least Mark or Hurt to be discerned about him. What is the more unaccountable is, that the Window near which he sat, was not in the least damaged, neither about the Frame nor the Glass. Lastly, in the lower Room of the House, near the Window, stood a Bedstead: the Panes of Glass were by the Flash all beat in Pieces; by forcing itself into the Room, the Walls were both within and without damaged, without doing any Hurt to some Straw which was in the middle of the Room. Under this Floor was the vaulted Roof torn by the Flash, in which it beat all Things to Pieces, but it found a ready Passage between the Wall and the Window Frame, and hurted a Maid-Servant, who stood near the Wall, on her Arm, which made it smart most intolerably. At the same Time she had a Glass Cup fill'd with
Water

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Water in her Hand, which being heated by the Lightning, she brought it hot into the House. Forty Foot from thence, a House was only stain'd with a dark Colour, without receiving any other Damage: In the aforesaid House a strong Smell of Sulphur was observed till the next Day. One Thing more very remarkable I have to mention, which is this: When the Flash of Lightning had struck upon the Wall of the Chimney, it flew, in the twinkling of an Eye, into a Walnut-tree, where from Top to Bottom it strip'd the Stem of all its Bark, and when so done, tore it in little Pieces, and flung it 30 Feet distant.

Another Account of the dreadful Effects of Lightning we have from *Stralesund*, a City of *Pomerania*, which is as follows.

June 19, 1670, being Sunday, a dreadful Flash of Lightning, like a black fiery Ball, darted thro' a large round Hole in the upper Vault of *St. Nicholas's Church*, directly upon the Altar, causing such a fearful Crack, Flash and Smoak, with a sulphurous Smell, as if several Fire-balls had been thrown down and burst all at once; the Candle on the South Side of the Altar was extinguish'd by the Blow; two of the Chalices were overthrown, the Wine spilt, and the Wafers scattered about, but the
empty

empty Chalice stood firm, and all three were somewhat smutted in the Foot, as likewise the Wafer-boxes towards the Bottom; and one of the Chalices was pierced through in two Places, as if it had been by Hail-shot; the Church Book was flung into the inner Passage; the Covers of the Altar were singed in several Parts, as if it had been by Powder, and somewhat burnt, and smutted here and there, as also torn in some Places; a strong Piece of Wainscot, with a Picture on it behind the great Altar, was split in two; both the Brass and Iron Wires of the Hour and Quarter-Hour Hammer of the Church Clock were partly broken, and the rest could not be found; and an Oak Post, fix'd in the Wall, for the Support of the Dial, was half torn; beneath the same several Bricks were struck out of the two Head Pillars, supporting the Steeple; on the Top of the South Steeple an Oaken Gutter and a strong Beam and Supporter were shattered; one of the Ministers, tho' sitting near the Altar to the South, had no Hurt at all; several of the People, seated near the Altar, fell down with the Fright; on the North Side of the Altar four Persons fell down; some that stood in the Belfry, near the Clock, were slightly hurt here and there, and one leaning on a lined Oaken
 Seat,

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Seat, had his right Arm bruised ; there issued with great Violence out of the South Steeple, upon opening the Windows, a great Damp like Smoak ; but there appear'd no Fire, save a little in the shatter'd Parts of the Steeple, which was soon quenched ; the Church Dial was smutted in several Parts, so that the gilt Figures could not be discerned, as also the gilt Weather-cocks on the Steeples, on one Side of their Fanes. It was afterwards observed, that of the eight Persons that were hurt, one, who stood in the Belfry, had the upper back-part of his Coat, as also his Shirt and Skin, somewhat torn, and yet the Lining of red Frize was not touched ; he that had his Arm bruised, had a Hole through his Coat, Waistcoat, and Shirt, on the Fore-part of his Body, appearing as if shot through, yet without the least Hurt ; his Waistcoat of red Sarsnet kept its Colour every where, except where the Arm was hurt ; and the small silver Edging was all over smutted ; one Side of his Shoe was torn off, and the Sole was pierced through as with small Shot, and near a Hand's-breadth of the Foot of his Stocking was struck away, without any other Hurt in either Foot or Leg, except that for some Days after he had a Numbness in that Foot ; one of those that sat by
the

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the Altar, had his Breeches and Leather Drawers pierced through on each Side, as with Hail-Shot, and some Parts were visibly scorched and shrunk up, as if it had been with Fire, and many of these small Holes were observed in his Shirt, without any Hurt to his Body.

I shall only give one more Instance, and so conclude this melancholly Subject.

At *Worcester*, in the Year 1724, there happened a terrible Instance of Thunder and Lightning, the Account whereof will be best told in the Author's own Words.

We had, says he, on the 10th of *June*, continued Lightning in the East from eight to twelve at Night. The Weather before had been very sultry. The next Day at two in the Afternoon several fierce Showers fell, attended with Flashes of Lightning and Claps of Thunder: Between two and three, a Flash came very suddenly upon me, succeeded so very quick by a low unusual dreadful Sound, that I immediately went to the Door, fearing some Mischief; I was soon call'd to an Officer's Lady (aged about eighteen, and breeding) who had survived the Stroke for six or seven Minutes. The Fire-Marks were Streaks of a Copper Colour, branch'd from the left Shoulder to her Breast. This sad Accident happened
in

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in the Parlour Window next the Street; the Lady, it seems, terrified, desired an Officer to change Places with her, that she might be with her Husband, but she was no sooner seated by his Side, than she inclined Side-ways, and spoke some Words; being carried into another Room, she said she was gone, that she was blind, and asked for Water; and though they used what Means they could to revive her, she died presently. The Husband was thrown all along, together with the fortunate Gentleman, that had just resigned his Seat, and a large Looking-Glass was lifted off the Hooks. The Pane of Glass, exactly behind the Lady's Waist, was perforated by a round Hole of an Inch Diameter, as if done with a Diamond, but no Traces of Fire, or Sign of Violence, could be discern'd on the Lady's Cloaths.

CHAP.

C H A P. VIII.

Of the strange and wonderful Caverns and subterraneous Hollows in the Carpis Mountains in Hungary.

WE shall oblige the Readers with this curious Account, translated from the *Higb Dutch*, in the Author's own Words, who himself was an Eye-Witness of what he relates.

It was, says he, in the Year 1724, May the 20th, when I, with several other Fellow-Travellers, arrived at *Kasmark*, in the Kingdom of *Hungary*, in the County of *Zipfer*, near the River *Puprad*, where we were well received and entertained by Mr. *Buchholtz*, Minister and Rector of the Seminary in that Place; we there had a full View of the Mountains which divide *Hungary* from *Poland*, and seem by Nature to be set as Boundaries between those two great Kingdoms. These Mountains are known by the Name of *Carpis*, so called from a People who were heretofore Natives of *Germany*, and settled

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settled there, but were obliged to quit it after some Time, by reason of the Severity of the Climate: The *Latins* call them the *Snow-Alps*; they are said to extend as far as *Tartary*. The Foot of the Mountain is all along bordered with a thick Forest, and the Tops are inaccessible Rocks. Their Height may be properly divided into four Regions or Gradations, whereof the first is cover'd with all manner of Fir-trees, and others of different Species, which keep green all the Year round: The second produces not only a Variety of streight stately Trees, but such likewise as bear Fruit; also Lime-trees, and a Sort of a Pine tree, not known to grow any where else in the World; the Balsamick Oil whereof is for its Virtue in great Repute all over *Hungary*, and other Parts of *Europe*. The third Region is cover'd with serpentine crooked Wood, from whence is extracted the famous Carpenters Balsam. The fourth Region is full of horrible Rocks and Cliffs, which in many Places are broken down, and in others seem ready to fall.

From the Summit of these Mountains, if the Air be clear, one may plainly perceive *Warsaw*, the Capital City of *Poland*, which is distant above seventy Miles.

These

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These Mountains are seldom seen without Clouds, Rain, or Snow; and on the Tops the Ice never melts all the Year round, be the Summer never so hot; on which Account they are called the *Snow-Alps*. A Sort of Ice or Snow-Worms breed in this Snow, which eat and hollow it like an Honey-comb.

We were desirous of climbing up those tremendous Cliffs, but were prevented by the heavy Snow which for several Nights successively had fallen on the upper Regions, and Mr. *Buchholtz* was of Opinion, that there would be no Possibility of doing it that Year.

In order to ascend these Cliffs, People make use of Iron Hooks, fastened to their Hands and Feet, whereby they help themselves both forwards and backwards; in doing this, they are obliged to be very careful, lest, losing their Hold, they should break their Necks, or fall between the intermediate Spaces of the Rocks, where they are unavoidably lost; and this has been the unhappy Fate of many, even of those who have been accustomed to climb those dreadful Precipices, who have at last been buried there alive.

There

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There are several Lakes between and upon these Mountains, which, though not very large, are very deep; they are known and distinguished by the following Denominations:

First, The *Green Lake*; the Water is so clear that one may see to the very Bottom, where several green Tracts are visible, from whence this Lake receives its Name. Mr. *Buchholz* told us, that out of Curiosity he had let down a Plummet, in order to inform himself what caused that green Colour; but had met with nothing but a white Sand, of which he had brought some up, and the Cause of the Phenomena is as yet undiscovered.

This Lake is surrounded with Rocks, and there is a fabulous Tradition among the People, that in one of these Rocks lay a large Carbuncle, which in the Night-time had appeared like a burning Coal, and illuminated all the District about it, but on Account of the prodigious Height of the Rock no one had presumed to climb up to it, till at last a bold and nimble Forrester, in shooting a wild Goat, had hit the Jewel, by which Accident it fell into that Lake, where those credulous People fish for it to this Day.

The

The Second is the *Toad Lake*, so called, because of the great Number of Toads that swarm in it

The Third is the *Wild-Goat-Lake*; it has that Name from the numerous Herds of those Creatures that brouze round about it.

The Fourth is distinguished by the Name of the *Black Lake*; the Depth whereof being unfathomable, causes the Water to appear of a blackish Complexion.

The Fifth is the *White Lake*, the Water of which appears extremely clear.

The Animals which frequent these Snow-Hills, are, 1. The wild Goats, who after they are kill'd amply recompense those who hazard their Lives in the Pursuit of them, with the Bezoar Stone: The Horns of this Animal are frequently purchased by Gentlemen, who have them wrought into Heads for their Canes. 2. Bears, which in Size are equal to those in *Poland*: They are hunted and shot by the *Hungarian* Gentlemen, not only for Sport, but the Feet of those Creatures are looked upon as an elegant Dish, and when dressed are served up at their own Table; the Carcase is Meat for the Servants, and their Skin is made use of for Saddles. 3. Lynxes. 4. Wild Boars. 5. Mountain Mice. 6. Hares. 7. Foxes. 8. Eagles,

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8. Eagles, so large and strong, as that they make a Prey of the wild Goats, Hares, and other Creatures. These Mountains are by several Authors said to be stored with Horses, but they are hardly ever seen.

As to Vegetables, these Mountains afford a vast Variety of salutary Herbs, from which are extracted very fine Medicines for the Cure of several Chronic Distempers. They abound likewise with rich Ore: Both Gold and Silver might be extracted from them, if the Access to them was not so dangerous, their Climate not so excessive cold, and their Summits not cover'd with so great a Quantity of Snow and Ice. All Attempts of that Kind have hitherto been fruitless, and all Endeavours proved unsuccessful. The Antimony in this Place is very fine, and contains some Particles of Gold. In the Brooks are found Granats, Diamonds, the Topaz, and Opal. There are also great Quarries of fine Marble, Jasper, Blood-Stone, Stone Coral, and *Terra Sigilla*, or Seal-Earth.

In my farther Travels through this Kingdom, several Gentlemen as well as myself had the Curiosity to take a View of the subterraneous Walks and Caverns, which are about four *English* Miles from a Village called

called *Bodjez*, in the County of *Liptow*, on a high Mountain; we were conducted thither by the Rector of the said Village, several other Gentlemen of that District, and four Peasants, all furnished with Axes and Fire-Arms, as well for clearing the Passage, as for a Defence against the Bears, which frequently harbour about the Foot of it. Of these subterraneous Cavities, the three following are well known: 1. *Cerna*, 2. *Benikyva*, and *Okno*.

It was with no small Difficulty as well as Danger we got over the two first; the high Mountain, in which they are, is grown all over with Pine-Trees, Fir, &c. and in several Places there are high Rocks that project a considerable Way.

The first Cavern is the largest of all, and having entered it about four Fathom deep, we found a small Cavity on the left Hand, with two large Holes. Here we made a Fire, and here we left our Cloaths, having put on those of the Peasants who attended us. We then set forwards and followed our Guide, the Rector; he having travelled these subterraneous Passages several Times before. We found the Entrance very wide, and at least forty Fathom deep, on a pretty steep
Descent :

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Descent: All the Way was as though it had been paved with Pieces of Rock and Ice, and we were obliged to be very careful to keep on our Feet.

Being arrived at the Bottom, we entered a large Plain, the Floor whereof was all solid Ice; from whence we crawled on our Bellies through a very narrow Aperture, into a small Cave, about the Bigness of a moderate Chamber, the Floor whereof seem'd to be strewed and cover'd all over with round Sugar Plumbs, whereof we put a small Quantity into our Pockets, and afterwards deceived several People with placing them in a Plate on the Table, they being at first Sight taken for real Sweetmeats.

From whence we advanced to the right Hand, and came to the Mouth of another Cave; here one of the Gentlemen, having a Candle in his Hand, was very desirous of having the Honour to enter it first, but the Passage being very steep, and covered with Ice, he soon fell on his Posteriors, and thus slid down to the Bottom, at least sixteen Fathom deep. We expected he had broke his Neck or his Limbs, but we soon heard him call out for a Candle; whereupon we let down several lighted Candles, but none would keep burning:
Back

Back to us he could not come, and if we had the Curiosity to see the principal and largest Cavern, we were obliged to follow him the same Way ; after a short Consultation, we resolved, that the Peasants should cut Holes and Steps in the Ice, which they readily did, and by that Means, and by taking hold by the Sides, we all got safe to our Companion, whom we found in a small Ice Cave ; for the Floor, Sides, and Ceiling, all were of solid Ice, and the Drippings of the Water had form'd several very large Pillars, which reached from the Ground to the Ceiling, and afforded a very agreeable Prospect.

Having here recovered ourselves a little from the Fatigue, and gratified our Curiosity in admiring the wonderful Structure Nature had formed in this Place, we advanced to the large Cavern, but before we could get there, we had a pretty high and narrow Passage to ascend, which at first we found impracticable, till by the Advice of the Rector, the four Peasants cut Steps in the Ice, by which we gradually ascended, and with great Toil and Fatigue at last came to the chief Cavern, in which we could not perceive the least Appearance of Ice.

This

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This Cavern indeed is not very broad, but of a great Length, we were told it was above four Miles long, we could not go to the End, because of the white Water which intersects the Middle thereof, and prevented us from advancing any farther; the Floor or Bottom Part is covered all over with Drop-Stone. The large Cliffs, which from Time to Time have fallen either from off the Sides or the Top, are crufted all over therewith: Up and down are seen a Variety of Figures, as Towers, Statues, Pillars, &c. all wrought by Nature in those Shapes and Forms from the Droppings of the Water, which petrifies. Among the many other surprizing Curiosities, we took particular Notice of some little Hillocks, composed of nothing else but small globular Balls, all of Drop-Stone, whereof those on the Surface did not exceed the Bigness of a large Pea, some indeed, at the Bottom, are as big as a small Nut. We found several of these Drop-Stones fixed to Rocks, in the Shape of Toad-Stools, or Mushrooms, so natural as to deceive the Eye. The Ceiling of this Cavern or Grotto was likewise embellished with a Variety of Figures. Some represented themselves to our Eyes like Clusters of Fruit and Flowers; such as Grapes, Apples, Pears, &c.

Having in our Passage entertain'd ourselves with viewing the wonderful Works of Nature for two or three Hours together, we came at last to the white Water I mention'd before, which intersects this Cavern; the Banks whereof are of a soft, white, and very light Earth, without either Smell or Taste: This occasioned the Whiteness of the Water, and made it look cloudy; it is likely that this is the Matter, which, in dropping down, petrifies, and assumes those different Shapes and Forms: The People call the Water *Mountain Milk*; we did not chuse to wade through it, but turned back to go the Way we came, and having passed all the difficult Places, over Rocks and Ice, we came safe to the Cavern where we had made a Fire; here we cleaned ourselves from the Dirt, and having shifted our Cloaths again, we refreshed ourselves after our great Fatigues; the Gentleman having provided plentifully, both Wine and Eatables, to be ready for us at our Return.

After this we climbed the Hill over Rocks and Stones for above two Miles, before we arrived to the second Cave, called *Benikyua*; the Mouth whereof was very wide, and we could see a considerable Way into the Cave; we stepped down upright without any great Difficulty, the Descent not being above five Fathoms

Fathoms deep : We found this Cave wider than the former, but not so long : The Sides, Floor, and Ceiling, were by Nature embellished like the principal Cave, with a Variety of Figures of Drop Stone, as Apples, Pears, Grapes, &c. I had the Curiosity to break off a Pear and a Bunch of Grapes, which are still to be seen by any curious Traveller, at the City of *Brunswick*. There are none of these little globular Forms to be met with in this Cave, which lay in Hillocks in the other.

Advancing a good Way farther, we arrived at a Place where we found a great Quantity of what the People call Dragon's Bones ; we took, out of Curiosity, a Jaw-Bone, and one of the Back-Bones ; the Teeth in the Jaw-Bones resembled those of Bears : There are such Quantities of those Bones, that several Carts might be loaded with them in a little Time ; Mr. *Buchholtz*, the Minister, of whom I have made mention before, being a Virtuoso, and an indefatigable Naturalist, had given himself a deal of Trouble to gather a whole Skeleton of those Dragon's Bones, and presented it to the late King of *Poland*, *Augustus I.* who had it repositied in his Cabinet of Rarities, and made Mr. *Buchholtz* a Present of a fine

Gold Medal as a grateful Acknowledgement.

Having gratified our Curiosity in viewing the Cave, we returned all safe to our Lodgings, but not without abundance of Fatigue and Trouble, which, however, was in a great Measure compensated by the Pleasure which we afterwards enjoy'd in making our Observations on what we had seen.

C H A P. IX.

Of Swimming ISLANDS.

THAT by Success of Time this Earth has undergone several Changes, by Inundations is without Dispute, from the surprizing Monuments which are left behind: Woods and Desarts have been chang'd into Towns and Cities, and those again into Hills, Forests or Lakes; the several Stratas of Stone, Sand, Snails, Sea-Muscles, Iron, Wood, and other Things confirm it; and some ancient People to this Day will shew, from their own Memory of Time, that formerly there was good Pasture and Corn-Land, which now is occupied with Fishing-Vessels, and where, on the contrary, a large Ship

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Ship had stranded, now nothing is seen but the Top-Mast, and all round it a dry sandy District. And we should even in these Times be more frequently informed of great Inundations and Floods, had not the Ingenuity of latter Ages found Ways and Means to hem in the unruly Current of the Sea, with Banks, Dams, Sluices, and other, in these Cases, very useful Inventions. We have many Examples of the high Winds forcing the Water out of its Current, and its occasioning of great Mischief, not only by over-flowing the Rivers, but tearing and bearing down Trees, Houses, and all before it: But there is one extraordinary Instance, of which a Monument is still remaining, which happened near the Town of *Gerdauen*, in the Kingdom of *Prussia*, which is worth the Attention of the Curious.

This Town, which is 8 *German* Miles from *Königsberg*, situate on the River *Omet*, has this remarkable; that, in a Lake near it is a swimming Island, which by the Wind is drove from one Shore to the other.

None of the ancient Authors have taken any Notice of this Prodigy in Nature, whence it is supposed, that its Date is not above 100 Years; which Opinion is pretty well strengthened as well by the Traditions

of old Inhabitants as by the present Situation of the Districts about the Town.

This swimming Island is a Piece of Pasture-Ground, which, as has been said already, is drove by the Agitation of the Wind from one Place to another.

The Ground of it consists of Rushes, Turff, Reeds, Leaves, Roots of Trees, and Shrubs, and but little Earth, which when dried will burn and flame like Wood. Over this interwoven and mix'd Matter grows Grass, which reaches the Cattle, which is drove upon it, to their Bellies. The whole Island consists now in three Parts, whereof the largest is 424 Foot long, and 234 Foot wide; the lesser Part is 296 Foot long, and 135 Foot wide; the smallest is 72 Foot long, and 30 wide. The Depth or Thicknes of the Ground is about four Foot, and the upper Part is level with the Surface of the Water. Of this Ground, there are sometimes, in stormy Weather, Pieces broke off, and wash'd on Shore, which makes the Island from Time to Time diminish.

The Inhabitants of the Town have made it a Sort of Horoscope, whereby to look what Sort of Weather they have to look for; for in case it drives towards the Sluice, it denotes Rain, but if to the opposite Shore,
fair

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fair Weather; and any where else changeable. In this Respect, the Island goes commonly under the Denomination of the *German Almanack*. If it be farther observ'd, that this Island draws after it abundance of all Manner of Fresh-Water-Fish, and the Fishermen make good Use of that Advantage.

The Form of this Island differed much in former Times to what it does now; for then it was a Piece of Ground on which above an hundred Black Cattle had good Pasture; it was seven hundred Foot long, and three hundred Foot wide, furnished with Trees and Shrubs, and was on that Account call'd the Swimming Forest.

The ingenious Father *Kircher*, who in his Travels met with several swimming Islands, has assigned the Cause and Origin of them to the slimy, greasy, and rosinous Matter, which easily unites Sand, Earth, and all Sorts of sulphurous nitrous Matter, on the Bottom of a standing Lake, which afterwards by the Motion of the Water it tore off the Ground, and by Virtue of its Lightness is bore up on the Surface of the Water, where it is hardened by the Heat of the Sun, and being by the Wind furnished with Dust and Sand from Shore, it grows fertile, produces Grass, &c. and becomes a perfect

swimming Island ; however, he is of Opinion that these Islands are of no long Duration, but being drove by the Wind from one Shore to another, it causes it to grow limber and break in Pieces, which are drove on Shore and unite with the Main Land.

This Conjecture holds good with a swimming Island about five *German Miles* from *Konigsberg* in *Sameland*, which confirms in every Respect the Description of its Make ; but the swimming Island near *Gerdaunen* has a quite different Origin ; for although we find nothing upon Record concerning it, yet the Inhabitants have it by Tradition from Father to Son, that in former Times there was no Lake near that Town, but only the small River *Omit*, which almost surrounded it, and flowing North joined and united with the River *Albe* ; and because the small River *Omit* not being rapid sufficient to drive a Mill, the Inhabitants contrived on the North Side, near the Bridge, a Dam, with a Sluice, in order to stop the Course of the Water, thereby to heighten it, so as to turn a Mill. One Time this River was swell'd prodigiously, by a great tempestuous Shower of Rain ; insomuch, that it overflowed not only its Banks, but extended itself all over the lower Lands, and made a large Lake. That Inundation

undation being accompanied with a great Storm, it washed great Part of the Shore below, tore off the Surface, and made it a swimming Island.

We have several other Accounts from Mariners of swimming Islands they have met with in their Voyages, but how far they are to be credited, I shall not pretend to assert; the above is genuine and authentic, for which Reason I have given the particular Circumstances in *English*, as they are set down by the Author, in the *German* Language.

In the *Tuscan* Sea *Tarquino*, are floating Islands, with fine Trees and Pasture, they make a very agreeable Prospect at some Distance, especially when by the Wind they are put in Agitation.

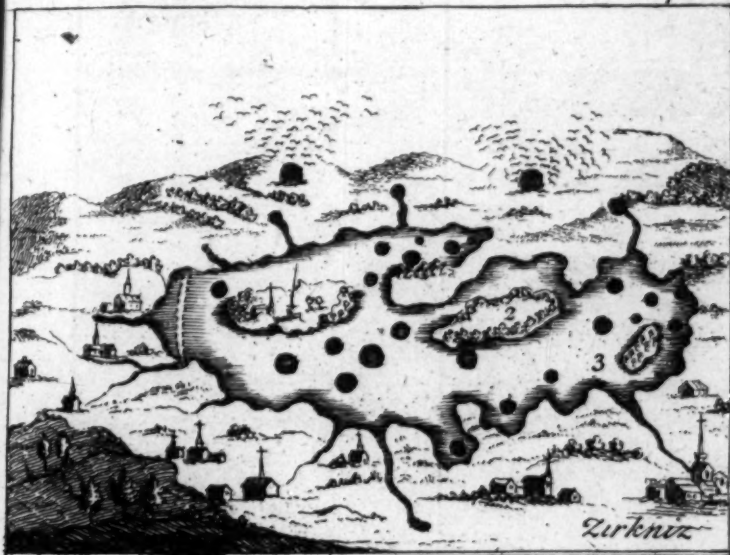
Near *Trivoli*, in the Lake *Di Bagni*, in *Italy*, are likewise several little swimming Islands, which always keep together, wherever they are drove by the Wind.

In a Voyage from *Cadiz* to *Malaga*, about eight Miles from the *Streight's* Mouth, a large Island was seen driving off the Coast of *America*, on which were not only fine green Trees, but likewise many wild Beasts, as Panthers, Tygers, and others, which made a horrible howling Noise; they likewise observ'd several Kinds of Birds.

C H A P. X.

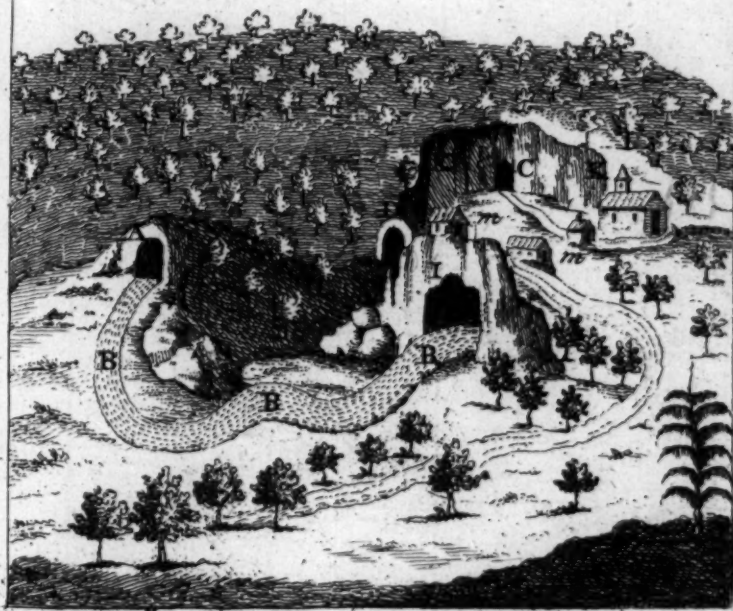
Of the Zirchnitzer Sea in Carniola.

THIS Sea, or rather Lake, is distant from the Capital of the Province of *Carniola Labac*, six German Miles. Its Length is rather more than 4000 geometrical Paces, and about half that Breadth. It is surrounded with Forest Mountains, which South and Westwards are very high: On the North and East Sides, between the Mountains and the Lakes, there is a pleasant Spot of Ground, which contains one Town, three Castles, and nine Villages. In one of the Mountains near the Lake, there are two Holes, or exceeding deep Precipices, in which wild Pigeons roost all Winter: They go into them in Autumn, and come out again in the Spring: What they live upon in these Caverns has not yet been discovered. There is another Hill, about which are seen the *Ignus Fatui*, and the common People have a Notion that Witches hold their Assemblies here. This Hill has a Hole on the Top, of an unknown Depth, from which issues forth a noxious Steam, which, as the People believe, causes Thunder,



1. Vernek. 2. Velka-goriza. 3. Mala-goriza.

Fig I.



The River Jesero



Thunder, Lightning and Hail: And a Priest belonging to the *Zirchnitz* Church, is oblig'd to go, every *Whitsun-Monday*, in Procession to the Hole, and to use a certain Form of Exorcism. No less than eight Rivulets do continually discharge themselves into this Lake, and though it is every where surrounded with Mountains, and no where overflowing, Nature has provided it with two visible Channels or strong Caverns, by which the Water runs under the Mountain, and also with a third hidden subterraneous Passage, which, no doubt, has a Communication with the two others. These Channels having run half a *German* Mile, come out on the other Side of the Mountain, in a desert Place, Fig. I. at a strong Cave A, and becomes the River or Lake called *Jesero* B, which having run a Quarter of a Mile enters a Cavern in a Rock I, under which it runs about the same Length, and then comes out on the other Side; and having passed through a small Plat *m m*, it enters a third Cavern C, in which having passed about fifty Paces, it runs with great Impetuosity down a Channel of Stone which is very steep. One may go in a small Boat under the Mountain thro' the Cavern I, and enters that of C, till one arrives at the fore-mention'd Fall, without any Danger. The Vall-y,

Valley, wherein the River *Jesero* runs, is very steep, but the Ground *m m* is plain and strong, surrounded with high Cliffs *K K*, which are very steep, except in one Place, where a Man may make a shift to get up and down, though not without endangering his Life, the Path being in some Places not above three or four Inches wide, and the widest not above six: Going up a steep and narrow Passage at *D*, one comes to a very large Cave, through which runs the River *Jesero*: Here are found several Figures of Stone, formed by Nature, also strange Holes and Caverns in the Earth, and when the Water is low, one may go a great Way under-ground, and see Varieties of odd Figures form'd by the petrified Water. But to return to the Lake:

In the Beginning of *August* the Water retires, and it is dry, but fills up again the latter End of *October*; however, it has not a certain Period, for it has been dry twice or thrice a Year: This makes the Fishing poor and inconsiderable. Sometimes, tho' but rarely, it happens to be three or four Years together full of Water, and then Fish are in great Plenty.

There are three Islands in this Lake, *viz.* *Mala-goriza*, and *Velka-goriza*, uninhabited; the third is *Vornek*, which has four Houses
and

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and a Church : In this Island are Fields, Meadows, Pastures, Woods, Gardens, Orchards, and all Things necessary for Life.

In this Lake are several Pits, like Basons or Caldrons, their Breadth being from twenty to fifty Cubits. In the Bottom of the Pits are several Holes, to which the Water and Fish retire when the Lake ebbs : The principal Pits, in which they fish, are eighteen, besides those of less Note. In the Months of *June*, *July*, and *August*, when the Lake begins to retire, it grows quite dry in twenty-five Days, and then the eighteen Pits are all emptied, one after another : When the Lake begins to sink, which appears by a certain Mark, Notice is given to the Fishermen all about the neighbouring Villages, who are appointed by the several Lords, that have the Right and Property of Fishing ; without their Leave no Body must presume to fish in that Lake, when it is full of Water.

The first Pit, *Malijoberch*, is like a Caldron, without any Holes in it, much Weeds grow in it, and a great deal of Fish is caught therein. Three Days after the Water begins to ebb, this Pit is emptied ; then the Parish Clerk of *Seedorf* gives Notice thereof, by tolling a Bell : When all the Inhabitants of the Town, without Distinction of Age

Age or Sex, go a Fishing stark naked: The Fish they catch is divided into two Parts; one they give to the Lord of the Manor, the other is all their own: Thus they proceed successively from one Pit to another, which lasts generally twenty-five Days.

This Fishing being over, a Signal is given by ringing a Bell, whereupon all the Inhabitants of the neighbouring Villages, and of *Cirknitz*, without Distinction of Age or Sex, go, for the most Part, stark naked into the Lake, and look for Fish among the Weeds and in the smaller Pits; and many of them creep into the subterraneous Caverns, with lighted Torches, and find Store of fine large Fish, having full Liberty to search all over the Lake. In one of the Pits there is a Descent of several Fathoms under-ground, which is not left unsearched. These Pits abound in Horse-Leeches, the Way to get rid of them, when they fasten to any one's Body, is to call out to another to piss upon the Leach, which makes it let go its Hold.

In the Mountain near the Lake are two large frightful Caves, which, when it thunders and lightens, they emit Water with a prodigious Force, three or four Fathoms high, as tho' it were forced by a Fire Engine, and with it sometimes a great Number of Ducks,
and

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and some Fish. When it rains moderately, the Water spouts with great Violence three or four Fathoms perpendicularly, out of two of the Pits; but when it rains very hard and long together, especially when accompanied with Thunder, then the Water breaks out with very great Force, not only at the two Pits, but at all the rest, and at every little Hole all over the Bottom of the Lake: The Water is thrown up several Fathoms, from some perpendicular, from some obliquely, so that it affords an exceeding pleasant Sight. If there are great Rains, the eight Rivulets are swell'd; and this Lake, in twenty-four Hours Time, will, from quite dry, become full of Water; though at other Times it has been known to be three Weeks in filling; but it is observed, that Thunder and Lightning contributes much to fill it speedily.

C H A P. XI.

Of the Seven Wonders in the Peake in Derbyshire.

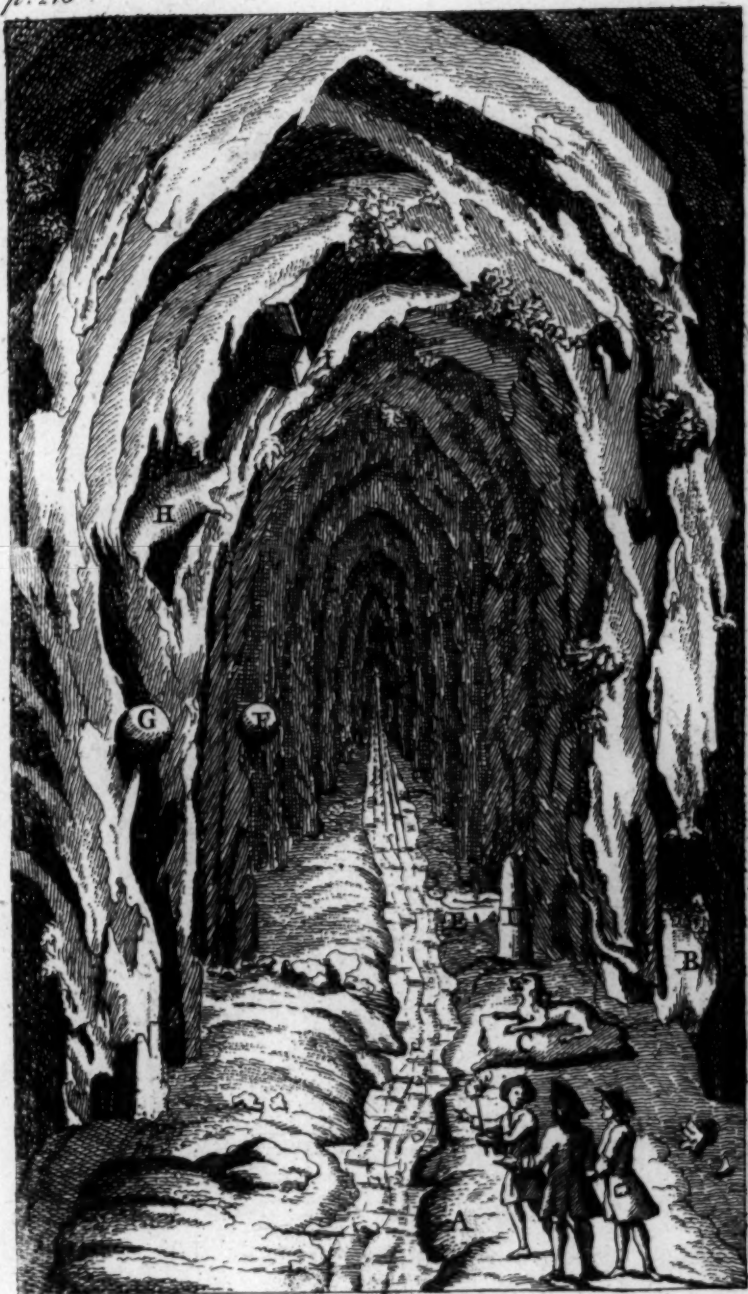
THE Eastern Part of *Derbyshire* is pleasant and fruitful, and bears plenty of all Sorts of Grain; but the Western
Part,

Part, the other Side of the River *Derwent*, abounds with Hills and Mountains, called *Peake*. It is divided by the River *Dove*; and though these Hills are for the Generality rough and craggy, yet they afford some Grass, which in the Valleys grows in Plenty, and makes good Pasture for great Flocks of Sheep and many other Cattle. But the chief Riches of this Country are hid in the Bowels of the Earth; for out of the Mountains are cut Load-Stones and Antimony in abundance; Millstones and Grindstones, Marble and Alabaster; as likewise a Sort of Crystal: There are also Mines of Iron, and Forges to work and form it. But what renders the *Peake* most famous, is, what are generally called the Seven Wonders of the *Peake*, viz. a wondrous House, a high Mountain, a horrible Pit, two Fountains, and two Caves.

The first Wonder, which being rather composed more by Art than Nature, not properly belonging to what is proposed under this Head of Natural Curiosities, we nevertheless don't doubt a Description thereof in this Place will not displease the Reader.

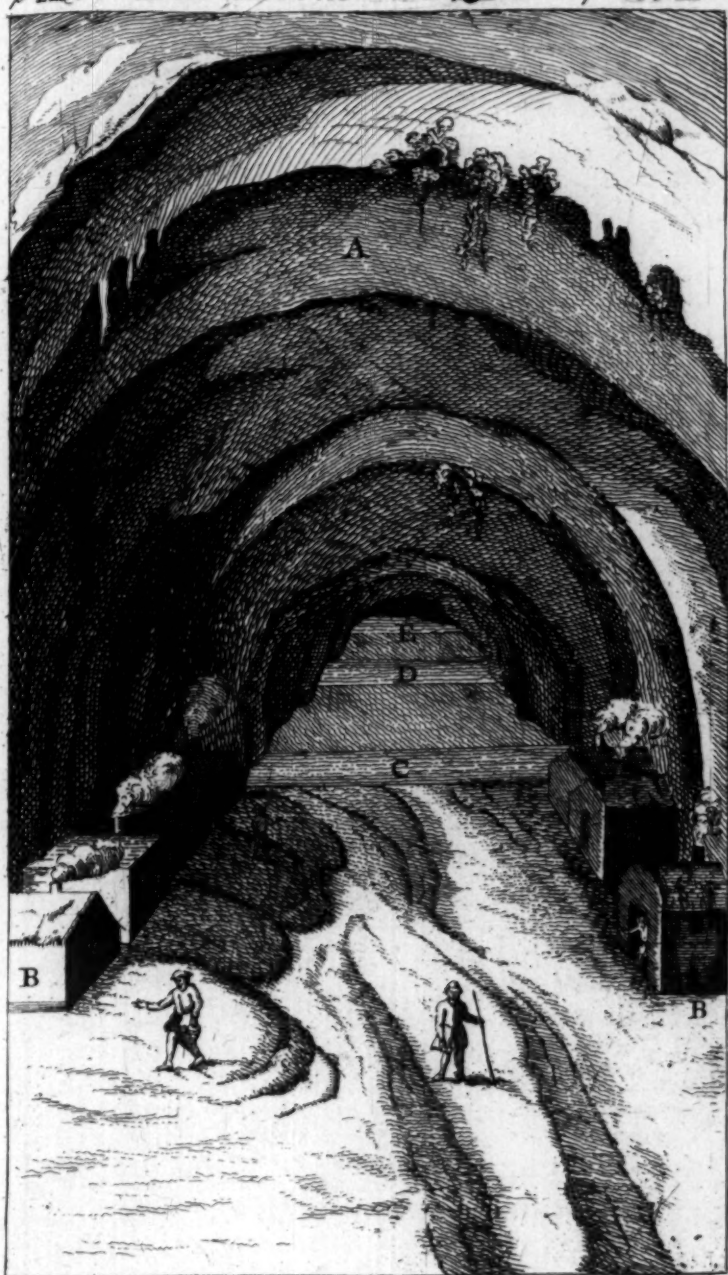
Mr. *Cotton* has painted a View of this Place with most lively Colours, in the following Poem:

On



Pools Hole







On *Derwent* Shore stands a stupendious Pile,
 Like the proud Regent of the *British* Isle,
 Shedding her Beams over the barren Vale,
 Which else bleak Winds, and nipping Frosts assail.

This Palace, with wild Prospects gilded round,
 Stands in the Middle of a falling Ground,
 At a black Mountain's Foot, whose craggy Brow
 Secures from Eastern Tempests all below,
 Under whose Shelter Trees and Flowers grow,
 With early Blossoms, maugre native Snow,
 Which else-where round a Tyranny maintains.
 And binds cramp Nature long in Crystal Chains.
 The Fabrick's noble Front faces the West,
 Turning her fair broad Shoulders to the East ;
 On the South Side the Stately Gardens lye,
 Where the scorn'd *Peake* rivals proud *Italy*.
 And on the North sev'ral inferior Plots
 For servile Use scatter'd do lye in Spots.

The outward Gate, stands near enough to look
 Her oval Front in the objected Brook ;
 But that she has better Reflexion
 From a large Mirror nearer to her own :
 For a fair Lake from Wash of Floods unmixt
 Before it lies an Area spread betwixt.
 Over this Pond, opposite to the Gate
 A Bridge of quaint Structure, Strength, and State,
 Invites you to pass over it, where dry,
 You trample may on Shoals of wanton Fry,
 With which those breeding Waters do abound,
 And better Carps are no where to be found.
 A Tower of antick Model the Bridge Foot
 From the *Peake* Rabble does securely shut,
 Which by Stone Stairs delivers you below
 Into the sweetest Walks that World can shew.
 There Wood and Water, Sun and Shade contend,
 Which shall the most delight, and most besfriend ;
 There Grass and Gravel in one Path you meet,
 For Ladies tend'rer, and Men's harder Feet.

Here

210 *The* WINTER'S EVENING

Here into open Lakes the Sun may pry,
 A Privilege the cloſer Groves deny;
 Or, if confed'rate Winds do make them yield,
 He then but chequers what he cannot gild.
 The Ponds, which here in double order ſhine,
 Are ſome of them ſo large, and all ſo fine,
 That *Neptune* in his Progreſs once did pleaſe
 To frolick in theſe artificial Seas;
 Of which a noble Monument we find,
 His Royal Chariot left, it ſeems, behind;
 Whoſe Wheels and Body moor'd up with a Chain,
 Like *Drake's* old Hulk at *Deptford*, ſtill remain.
 No Place on Earth was e're diſcover'd yet,
 For Contemplation or Delight ſo fit.
 The Groves, whoſe curled Brows ſhade every Lake,
 Do every where ſuch waving Landſkips make
 As Painter's baffled Art is far above,
 Who Waves and Leaves could never yet make move:
 Hither, the warbling People of the Air,
 From their remoter Colonies repair,
 And in theſe Shades, now ſetting up their Reſts,
 Like *Cæſar Swiſs*, burn their old native Neſts.
 The Muſes too pearch on the bending Sprays,
 And in theſe Thicket's chant their charming Lays.
 But let me lead you in, 'tis worth the Pains
 T' examine what this Princely Houſe contains,
 Which if without ſo glorious to be ſeen,
 Honour and Virtue make it ſhine within.
 The fore-named outward Gate, then leads into
 A ſpacious Court, whence opens to the View
 The noble Front of the whole Edifice,
 In a ſurprizing Height, is ſeen to riſe.
 Even with the Gate-houſe upon either Hand
 A neat ſquare Turret in the Corners ſtand;
 On each Side Plats of ever-ſpringing Green,
 With an aſcending Pavior-Walk between.
 In the green Plat, which on the Right-Hand lyes,
 A Fountain of ſtrange Structure, high doth riſe,

Upon

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Upon whose slender Top there is a vast,
 I'd almost said, prodigious, Basen plac'd;
 And, without doubt, the Model of this Piece
 Came from some other Place, than *Rome* or *Greece*.
 For such a Sea suspended in the Air,
 I never saw in any Place, but there;
 Which should it break, or fall, I doubt we shou'd
 Begin to reckon from the second Flood.
 Though this divert the Eye, yet all the while
 Your Feet still move towards th'attractive Pile,
 Till fair round Stairs, some fifteen Griefes high,
 Land you upon the Terras, that doth lye
 Of goodly Breadth, along the Buildings square,
 Well rail'd and fenc'd with Rail, and Baluster;
 This to the Lodge admits, and two Steps more
 Set upon a level axel Floor,
 Which paves the inner Court, a curious Place,
 Form'd by the am'rous Structures kind Embrace.
 I'th' Center of this shady Court doth rise
 Another Fountain, of a quaint Device,
 Which large-limb'd Heroes with Majestick Port,
 In their Habilliments of War support.
 Hence, cross the Court, through a fine Portico
 Into the Body of the House you go,
 Where a proud Hall does not at all abate
 Any thing promis'd by the outward State,
 And where the Reader we intreat will please
 By the large Foot to measure *Hercules*:
 For sure a vain and endless Work it were
 T' insist upon every Particular.
 And shou'd I be so mad to go about
 To give Account of every Thing throughout,
 The Rooms of State, Stair-cases, Galleries,
 Lodgings, Appartments, Closets, Offices;
 Or to describe the Splendors, undertake
 Which ev'ry glorious Room, a Heaven make
 The Pictures, Sculpture, Carving, Graving, Gilding,
 'Twou'd be as long in Writing as in Building.

The:

212 *The* WINTER'S EVENING

The Glazier's Work before substantial was,
 I must confess, thrice as much lead as Glafs,
 Which in the Sun's Meridian cast a Light,
 As it had been within an Hour of Night.
 The Windows now look like so many Suns,
 Illustrating the noble Room at once.
 Upon a Terras, as most Houses high,
 Through from this Prospect, humble to your Eye,
 A stately Plat, both regular and vast,
 Suiting the Rest, was by the Foundress cast,
 In those incurious Times, under the Rose
 Design'd, as one may faucily suppose,
 For Lillies, Daffodils, and Roses.
 To garnish Chimnies, and make *Sunday* Posies.
 Where Gooseberries, as good as ever grew,
 'Tis like was set; for Winter-greens, the Yew,
 Holly and Box; for then these Things were new. }
 With oh! the honest Rosemary and bays,
 So much esteem'd in those good Vassel Days.

Now in the Middle of this great Parterre,
 A Fountain darts its Streams into the Air,
 Twenty Foot high; till by the Wind deprest,
 Unable longer upwards to contest,
 They fall again, in Tears, for Grief, and Ire,
 They cannot reach the Place they did aspire.

Where the Ground swells nearer the Hill above,
 And where once stood a Crag and Cherry Grove,
 (Which of Renown then shar'd a mighty Part)
 Instead of such a barbarous Piece of Art,
 Such poor contriv'd, dwarfish and ragged Shades,
 'Tis now adorn'd with Fountains and Cascades,
 Terras on Terras with their Stair-Cases
 Of brave and great Contrivance, add to these
 Statues, Walks, Grass-plats, and a Grove indeed,
 Where silent Lovers may lye down and bleed.
 And though all Things were for that Age, before
 In truth so great, that nothing cou'd be more;

Yet

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Yet now they with much greater Lustre stand,
Touch'd up, and finish'd by a better Hand.

But that which crowns all this, and does impart
A Lustre far beyond the Power of Art,
Is the great Owner, He, whose noble Mind
For such a Fortune only was design'd.
Whose Bounties as the Ocean's Bosom wide,
Flow in a constant, unexhausted Tide
Of Hospitality and free Access,
Liberal Condescension, Chearfulness,
Honour and Truth, as ev'ry of them strove
At once to captivate Respect and Love:
And all perform'd with Order, and such Grace,
As rivet Wonder to the stately Place.
But I must give my Muse the Hola here,
Respect must check her in the wild Career;
For when we impotently do commend,
The Thing well meant, ill done must needs offend,
His Virtues are above my Character,
Too great for Fame to speak, or Verse to bear.

The second Wonder is the Mountain,
call'd *Mam-Tor*, under which are several
Lead-Mines: This Hill is almost perpetu-
ally shivering down Earth and Stones, in
such Plenty, and with so much Noise, be
the Air never so calm, that it frequently
puts the neighbouring Inhabitants in great
Fear and Dread; and tho' it has continued
so to do for several Generations, yet it never
grows visibly less; but the Reason may be
the great Extent of its Breadth on the Sur-
face thereof, which, though it daily dimi-
nishes, is not discernable by the Eye.

The

The Third Wonder is *Elden-Hole*, a deep and horrible Chasm: It is about seven Yards broad, and twice as long: The Mouth of it is wide and craggy, but the inward Recesses are contracted and intricate. It is supposed to be a bottomless Abyss, because it could never yet be fathom'd by any Art of Men, though several have attempted it. Mr. *Cotton* endeavoured to find the Depth of it by plumbing it, and having let down a Line of 884 Yards long, of which 80 appear'd to have sunk into Water, yet he cou'd reach no Ground with the Plummet.

The Earl of *Leicester*, in Queen *Elizabeth's* Time, had the Curiosity to hire a Man, who was let down 200 Yards deep in a Basket with Stones, to try the Depth of it: And being pull'd up again, with great Expectations of some Discoveries, he was found senseless, and died within eight Days after of a Frenzy. So that we are as much in the Dark concerning the Nature of this Prodigy as we were before.

Travellers and other Strangers, who have the Curiosity to see this Wonder, commonly hire some Country Fellows as Guides. Flinging large Stones into this Chasm in order to form some Idea of its Depth, and by laying one's Ears close to the Mouth of it, one hears a rattling Noise for some considerable

ENTERTAINMENT. 215

siderable Time, which lessens by Degrees, till it gets beyond the Reach of Hearing: Some Philosophers, who will have the Wind come from the Bowels of the Earth, assert, that this Chasm is the Mouth out of which it proceeds: Others, who have more Chimeras than Judgment, will have it to be the Mouth of Hell.

The Guides will entertain Travellers with many ridiculous Tales concerning this Place; as, a Goose being once flung in, was afterwards seen two Miles off coming out of the *Devil's Arch*, rifled of her Feathers.

They likewise tell you very seriously, that a heavy Bell was let down by a Rope, several hundred Fathoms deep, when on a sudden it stopp'd, and it was not possible for the People to move it back, till after a short Space of Time the Line or Rope was drawn up, knotted in a curious Manner, but the Bell was gone.

A Story is likewise told for a certain Truth, that once a Stranger travelling that Way, happened to come thro' a Village, where, asking at a House how far it was to a certain Place he named, and being informed, he asked the Man, whether he would conduct him thither, it being Night, he might miss his Way, and that he would
satisfy

satisfy him for his Trouble to his own Content. The Fellow hereupon call'd another of his Neighbours to bear them Company, and then went on their Journey. In their Way they perceiv'd the Port Manteau to be well stocked, and whispering to one another, contrived the Gentleman's Destruction; and coming pretty near the *Elden-Hole*, they desired him to dismount, for the Way, said they, is very dangerous to go on Horse-back, till we have-passed that uneven Tract, and then you will have no Occasion to dismount again: The Gentleman readily complied, and one of these Villains took him by the Hand, the other led the Horse, and having brought the Innocent trepann'd Stranger to the Threshold of that horrible Chasm, the barbarous Villain push'd him headforemost into it. One of those Rogues was not long after apprehended, tried and condemned for a Robbery, when at the Place of Execution he confessed that horrid Fact he was guilty of.

The Fourth Wonder is *Buxton-Wells*, of which are nine in Number: They are so called from the Town near which they spring. Dr. *Leigh* says, that the Water of these Wells is hot, sulphurous and saline, yet very palatable: It tinges not Silver, nor is it purgative, by Reason of its saline Particles being dispersed
in

in very small Proportions. These Waters being drank, create a good Appetite and open Obstructions ; it is of a temperate Heat, and tho' by Reverberation it might be brought to a higher Degree, its own natural Heat is more agreeable and may be used to such Constitutions and Parts where hotter cannot.

It is good in scorbutick Rheumatisms, Distempers of the Nerves, and most Diseases of the Body ; on which Account, Numbers of People flock thither from all Parts, to obtain a Cure for their Distempers by bathing in them. These Wells are inclosed with a Stone Building, and the Town has convenient Lodgings for all Persons, according to their Rank and Station. *Mary* Queen of *Scots* honoured this Place with her Presence for some Time.

The Fifth Wonder is *Weeding*, or *Tides Well*: A Spring that ebbs and flows like the Sea, though not so noted as that in *Yorkshire*, whose Water ebbs and flows several times in an Hour, whereas the ebbing and flowing of this Well is uncertain, and happens to be sometimes once, at other times twice in an Hour ; sometimes it is not discernable for a considerable Time, especially in a dry Summer : It always, upon the sinking of the Water, makes a gurgling Noise within the Mountain, not unlike the

pouring of Liquor out of Bottles, but much louder.

The Sixth Wonder is *Poole's Hole*, a remarkable Cave, the Entrance of which is at the Foot of a large Mountain, by a small Arch, so low, for several Paces, that such who will venture into it, are forced to creep upon All-fours a while; but then it opens to a considerable Height, not unlike the Roof of a large Cathedral. On the Right Hand is a hollow Cave, which goes by the Name of *Poole's Chamber*, where, by striking against the Wall, there rebounds a noisy Echo. From thence your Guide conducts you, with a Link, over rough and stony Paths, with great Toil and Labour, and shews you many Representations in Nature, produced from the petrified Water, continually dropping from the Roof and Sides of the Rock. Here you see the Imitation of a most curious Fret-Work, Organ and Choir-work: In other Places the Figures of Animals; as, the Body of a Man, a Lion, a Dog, and many other Creatures, which the Imagination may form in one's Brains. There is likewise one Thing, which is called the Font; one, Esquire *Cotton's* Haycock; other Things resembling Chairs, Flitches of Bacon, a Lanthorn, and many more Varieties.

Advancing

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Advancing farther is seen the Queen of Scots Pillar, which is clear and bright as Alabaster; beyond that is a deep Ascent for near a Quarter of a Mile high, which terminates near the Roof of an Hollow, called, *The Needle's Eye*, in which, when the Guide places his Candle or Link, it represents a Star in the Firmament; and indeed the whole Prospect in this wonderful Cavity is much enlarged by the Light of Candles. Near the Pillar the Guide commonly fires a Pistol, which redoubles and sounds almost as loud as a Cannon.

After this, the curious Inspector returns back another Way, where he passes many small Currents, and being come out, he is met by some poor Women, with a Bason of Water and Herbs, to cleanse himself from the Filth, contracted by creeping and climbing in those nasty dark Caverns.

Explanation of the PLATE.

A. The Entrance. B. Representations of Plans. C. The Figure of a Lion. D. The Queen of Scots Pillar. E. The Figure of a Human Corpse. F. The Sparry Globe. G. *Cotton's* Haycock. H. Flitch of Bacon, I. The Chair. K. The Needle's Eye.

We come now to the Seventh and last Wonder, which is call'd, *The Devil's Arch* or *Peake's Arch*; a wide subterraneous Cavern: At its Entrance it is large, but the farther one goes in, the narrower it grows. The Roof of it is very high, and appears to the Eye a most graceful Arch, chequer'd with a Variety of colour'd Stones. From it continually drops a sparry Water, which, like that in *Poole's Hole*, petrifies. Within the Arch are several small Buildings, where the poorer Sort of People inhabit, who are ready at all Times with Lanthorns and Candles to attend such Strangers as are curious to see those subterraneous Dwellings.

These People resemble the *Troglodites*, who live under Ground like Rabbits. The Cave, after one has got in a little Way, is very dark and slippery, by Reason of a Current of Water, which runs along it, and one is forced to stoop, because the Rock hangs down sloping; but having pass'd this Place, and an adjoining Brook, which sometimes is not to be waded, the Arch opens itself again, and brings one to the second Current, with large Banks of Sand; however, this is passable; and one comes a little farther to a third Current, which is impassable, and then the Rock closes.

closes. A certain Author, either from his own Imagination, or from some groundless Report, tells us, that a Shepherd ventured over all these Currents, and found a Passage into a delightful Country, in which he saw vast Pools and large Rivers, with green Meadows and Pastures.

Explanation of the PLATE.

A. The Devil's  B. Houses within the Arch. C. The first Water. D. The second Water. E. The third Water, where the Rock closes.

CHAP. X.

Of a most Terrible Earthquake that happened at Jamaica, in the Year 1692.

IT was on the seventh of June, in the above-mentioned Year, when the Morning appear'd bright, the Sky clear and serene, no Cloud was to be seen, or a Breath of Air to be felt, when on a sudden that great Shock, so fatal to that Island, happened: It began with a small Trembling, which was succeeded by a stronger Shake, together with a hollow rumbling Noise, almost like that of Thunder; immediately upon this, there ensued a third violent

L 3

Shock

Shock, which in less than a Minute's Time shook the very Foundation of *Port Royal*, three Parts in four of the Houses, and the Ground whereon they stood, and most of those who inhabited them, sunk at once quite under Water, and the Houses on the Ground that was left, were shattered in a violent Manner, scarcely one House in ten was left standing, and those so shattered, that few of them were fit to live in; all the Streets next the Water, towards the Harbour Side, lay in six or eight Fathom Water, where formerly were excellent Wharfs, close to which Ships of 700 Ton might lie and unload; and where stood the best Store-Houses and Conveniencies for Merchants, and the most stately Buildings. The Shock was so violent that it threw People down on their Knees, and sometimes on their Faces, as they ran about the Streets to provide for their Safety, and it was a very difficult Matter to keep on one's Legs, the Ground heaving and swelling like a rolling Sea, by which Means several Houses, that continued to stand, were shuffled and moved some Yards from their Places; in many Places the Ground would crack, open, and suddenly shut again, in which Openings several were swallowed up; some were caught by the Middle and squeezed to Death;

Death ; the Heads of others only appear'd above Ground ; some were swallowed quite down, and cast up again with great Quantities of Water ; others went down without being ever after seen ; large Openings swallowed up great Houses, and out of some Gapings whole Rivers of Waters would issue forth, spouted up to a great Height in the Air, which seemed to threaten a Deluge, and were accompanied with offensive Smells ; and by these Openings, and the Vapours emitted from the Earth into the Air, the Sky, which before was clear and blue, was in a Moment's Time become dull and reddish, like a red hot Oven ; all these dreadful Circumstances occurring at once, and accompanied all the Time with prodigious loud Noises from the Mountains, caused by their falling, &c. and also with a hollow Noise under-ground, and People running from one Place to another with ghastly Looks, and more resembling the Dead than the Living, made it a very melancholy Scene. Tho' *Port Royal* suffered much by the Earthquake, yet it left more Houses standing there, than in all the Island besides ; it was so violent in those Places, that the People could not keep on their Legs, but were forcibly thrown down on the Ground ; it scarcely left a

Planter's House or Sugar-work standing all over the Island; in several Places of the Country the Earth gaped prodigiously, and Houses, People and Trees were swallowed up, and the Place was afterwards become a great Pool or Lake of Water; and in some Places these Gapings or Openings spouted up with prodigious Force great Quantities of Water into the Air; but the Mountains suffered the greatest Shocks, emitting at the same Time loud Noises and Echoings: Not far from *Yallhouse*, Part of a Mountain, after it had made great Leaps or Removes, overwhelmed a whole Family, and a great Part of a Plantation, lying a Mile off; and a large high Mountain near *Port Morant*, about a Day's Journey over, was quite swallowed up, and in the Place where it stood, there succeeded a great Lake of four or five Leagues over. The Tops of great Mountains in their Fall swept down with them Trees and other Things in their Way; and these vast Pieces of Mountains, with all the Trees thereon, falling together in a huddled and confused Manner, stopped up most of the Rivers for about 24 Hours, which afterwards having found out new Channels, brought down into the Sea several hundred thousand Tons of Timber, floating therein in such prodigious Quantities, that they
seem'd

seem'd like moving Islands: Some were of Opinion that the Mountains were sunk a little, and others thought that the whole Island subsided a little, and *Port Royal* was said to be sunk a Foot, and in many Places of *Liguania*, their Wells did not require so long Ropes to draw Water out of them, as before the Earthquake, by two or three Foot. In the Harbour of *Port Royal*, at the Time of the great Shock, though the Seas were very calm, there was suddenly raised such a strange Emotion in the Water, that immediately it swell'd as in a Storm; great large Waves appearing on a sudden, rolling with such Force, that they drove most Ships in the Harbour from their Anchors, breaking their Cables in an Instant: In *Liguania*, the Sea retired from the Land in such a Manner, that for two or three hundred Yards the Bottom of the Sea appeared dry, and the Fish were left behind, and in a Minute or two's Time the Sea returned again, and overflowed a great Part of the Shore: At *Yallbouse* the Sea retired above a Mile. Two thousand Persons were supposed to have perished in this Earthquake. It is observed that in windy Weather there never happens a Shock, but in calm Weather it is always expected; that after Rain, the Shocks are smarter than at other

Times, which may be caused by the shutting up of the Pores of the Earth, whereby the Force is more pent in, and hath not so free a Passage to perspire and vent itself, &c. that since the Earthquake, the Land-Breezes often fail, and instead thereof Sea-Breezes blow all Night, a Thing rarely known before, but since common: In *Port Royal*, and in many other Places all over the Island, much sulphurous combustible Matter hath been found, which upon the least Touch of Fire would flame and burn like a Candle: *St. Christopher's*, one of the *Caribbee Islands*, was formerly much infested with Earthquakes, but upon the Eruption of a great Mountain of combustible Matter, which still continues, they wholly ceased, and have never since been felt there; which gave some Hopes that some such Eruption in some of the Mountains of *Jamaica* would free that Island from Earthquakes.

C H A P. XI.

Of some wonderful SPRINGS.

FOUR Hungarian Miles from *Hermanstat* in *Transilvania*, near the Foot of a Hill, is a Well, whose Diameter is about three Feet, and not above five Feet deep:
The

The Water whereof is of a dark blackish Colour, boiling up six Inches above its natural Surface, yet never runs over, but continues always within the Compass of the Well. This Water has that surprising Quality, that when Fire is held to it at above six Inches Distance, it will flame and burn like Brandy, and at the same Time rise above three Feet high, and consume Wood, or any other combustible Matter in its Reach.

This Well, being once set on Fire, will burn for a long Time, nor can the Flame be quenched without throwing much Earth over it. All the while this Well is burning, the Water thereof continues cold, tastes like Mineral-Water, and is of a sulphurous Nature; but the Flame has no Manner of Scent. After this Water is taken out of the Well, it changes that Quality, and will take no Fire; on the contrary, it will quench it when poured upon.

This wonderful Spring was first known in the Year 1652; but the burning Quality thereof was discovered by mere Accident in the Year 1672: The Peasants in that Neighbourhood being employed in burning Reeds and Weeds, this Well was by that Means set on Fire, and burnt for several Weeks successively, to the great Astonishment

ment of all the People that came far and near to see that Prodigy of Nature.

It has been observed by several Naturalists, that the Earth or Matter taken out of this Well has no Quality of catching Fire. No Moss nor Herb grows in or about this Well for about three Feet Distance; but then there grows Grass and Reeds in Abundance: The Soil is sandy, and the Wine and Fruit which grows in that District, doth not fall short in Virtue or Taste from what is produced a greater Distance farther: Neither Men or Beasts drink of this Water, for the continual boiling thereof makes it troubled, and of a blackish Colour: The Ground about it is of a salty Nature, and in dry and sun-shiny Weather, it looks like a white Frost. In 1671 another Spring was discovered a few Paces from the former, of the same Nature and Quality, but only much less.

Another wonderful Spring is that at *Puz-zolo* in *Italy*, which is a particular large Chasm, the Water whereof is very black: It boils and ebulates by the Force of subterraneous Fires and Winds; in so terrible a Manner as causes a dread to the Beholder. This Chasm may properly be compared to a Cauldron, fill'd with bituminous Matter, as Pitch and Rosin, which is continually boiling

boiling and ebulating over a great Fire. These Boilings and Swellings change Places on the Surface; for sometimes it raises in one Place, sometimes in another: Some of this Water will stick to the Borders of the Chasm, and petrify. It is surprising to see the violent Motion of this Spring, for it forces the Water eight or ten Feet high; and it is affirmed by the People at *Puzzolo*, that sometimes it has risen to sixteen or twenty-four Feet. This happens according to the Agitation of the Sea, which is not far from it; for when that is still, the Spring also is calm, which is a Demonstration that the subterraneous Winds, through the several Caverns and Hollows of the Earth, occasion those vehement Ebulations. The Chasm is surrounded with Rocks and Hills, between which are found several Holes, from which exhale Vapours and Smoke; and some of them send forth a strong Wind, with a surprising Rattling and Noise, and with such Force, that if a Stone is flung into one of those Holes, it will be repell'd back again. Out of some of these Holes issue forth, along with the Smoak, Flames of Fire; and one might imagine this District to be that which the Poets used to describe as the Suburbs of Hell: But as dreadful as the Place seems to be, it yields nevertheless
a good

a good Income to the People that live thereabouts, by gathering Abundance of Sulphur, Saltpetre, Vitriol, &c.

The Water of the famous boiling Fountain at *Peroul* near *Montpelier*, is observed to heave and boil up very furiously in small Bubbles, which manifestly proceeds from Vapours breaking out of the Earth, for upon digging any where near the Ditch, and pouring other Water upon the dry Place newly dug, the same boiling was immediately observed. The like Bubbling of Water is also seen round about *Peroul*, on the Sea-Shore. There are other boiling Waters of a quite contrary Temper, being actually hot to several Degrees, so as to boil Eggs, and other Things put into them; as, those near *Naples*; also upon the Top of Mount *Zebio*, in the Duke of *Modena's* Territories; in the Source of the Emperor's Bath at *Aix la Chapelle* in the Dutchy of *Juliers*; and *Varenius* tells us, that in *Japan* there bursts out so hot and boiling a Spring, that no Water can be brought to the same Degree of Heat by the strongest Fire; that it retains its Heat three Times longer than common Water; and that it does not flow continually, but for two Hours a Day; and then the Force and Violence of the Vapours are so great, that they remove large
Stones,

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Stones, and raise them to the Height of three or four Ells, with a Noise resembling the Expulsion of a great Gun.

C H A P. XII.

Of some remarkable and noted BATHS and SPRINGS.

OF the natural Baths, those at the City of *Buda* in *Hungary* are esteemed the noblest in all *Europe*, not only in respect to the hot and cold Springs, but likewise in that they are embellished with magnificent and stately Edifices, which were built by the *Turks*, who are greatly accustomed to Bathing, being enjoined the frequent Use of Baths by the Laws of *Mahomet*. There are told in the City of *Buda*, eight publick Baths: The First is large and open at the Foot of a high Rock. The Second is covered with a Cupola, and is likewise joined to the same Rock. The Third is the *Bath of green Pillars*; its Water is hot, but sufferable without the Addition of cold Water; it is impregnated with a petrifying Juice, which discovers itself on the Sides of the Bath, the Spout, and several other Places, and produces a grey Stone: The Vapours
rever-

reverberating from long Stones, like Icicles, hanging to the Irons extended between the Pillars, and other Places, not unlike what is observ'd in *Poole's Hole* in *Derbyshire*. The Fourth Bath in that City, is that called the *Table Bath*; it is small and covered: The Water is white, and of a sulphurous Smell; they both drink of this and bathe in it; what they drink they receive from a Pipe, that conveys the Water to a Place where it may be drawn by Means of a Cock. This Water running hot upon Silver Coin, and being rubb'd over between one's Fingers, tinges it like a beautiful Gilding in a Minute's Time. The Fifth is called the *Powdermill Bath*: It rises in an open Pond near the Highway, and mixes with the fresh Springs, so that in one Part the Pond is of a whitish, and in another of a clear transparent Colour, and is likewise hot and cold in several Places: This Water being conveyed cross the Highway into a Powder Mill, is useful in making of Powder. The Sixth is called the *Bath of the Saint*; it is, where the Springs arise, so hot as scarce to be endured, but being let out into another Bathing-Place at some Distance, it becomes fit for Use: The Water of this Place differs neither in Colour, Smell, nor Taste from common Water, only the Sides of the Bath
are

are green, and have a fungous Substance all over. The Seventh is a very noble Bath, the Water is very hot, and of a petrifying Quality; the Building about it is eight Feet Square, with the Bath in the Middle, and a Trench of Water round to ornament it; on every Side is a Nich with a Fountain: In the Anti-Chamber, where they that bathe leave their Cloaths, is a large Stone Bason and a Fountain. The Eighth Bath, which is the noblest of all, has a strong sulphurous Smell, and petrifies; it is too hot for the Use of Bathing without the Addition of cold Water: The Anti-Chamber is very large: The Bath-Room is high arched, and adorned with five Cupolas, of which that over the great round Bath is very beautiful, supported by twelve Marble Pillars, between eight of which are Fountains of hot and cold Water, and between the other are Places to sit down, where the Servants belonging to the Place attend the People that are bathing, and furnish them with Napkins and Aprons.

These Baths are used two Ways, either by entering into the Water, or sitting in the Steam; for the Vapours make the whole Room a Stove, and provoke Sweat.

The Baths of *Baden* in *Austria* are very famous: They are situated in a Plain, four German Miles from the City of *Vienna*,
near

near a Ridge of Hills. Two are within the Town, five without the Walls, and two beyond a Rivulet. The *Duke's Bath* is the largest, about twenty Feet square; it is in the Middle of a House, built in the same Figure over it: The Vapour is discharged through a Funnel at Top, and the Water is convey'd into the Bath from the Spring-Head, which rises at a little Distance: The Springs of the other Baths rise under them, being let in through Holes in the Flooring. The Water, for the most Part, is clear and transparent, of a blueish Hue; it turns Metals black in a few Minutes, except Gold, whose Colour it heightens; Silver is changed in a Minute from white to a dark yellow, and soon after into a black: The Spring-Head rises under a rocky Hill, about 40 Yards, through an arched Passage cut in the Rock: The greatest Part of this Cave is incrustated with a white Substance, called Salt-petre; which at the Mouth of the Cave becomes more hard and stony.

The Second Bath within the Walls is that of *Our Lady*; about twelve Feet broad, and twenty-four long; it abounds more with Sulphur than the others, is blue, and leaves a yellow Flower on the Boards as the other doth white. The Third is the *New Bath*.
The

The Fourth is allotted for the *Jews*. The Fifth is *St. John's Bath*, of a triangular Form. The Sixth is called the *Beggar's Bath*, which is always so shallow, that they lie down in it. The Seventh is the *Bath of the Holy Cross*, about four Fathoms Square, chiefly allotted for the Clergy. The Eighth is *St. Peter's Bath*, the Water is greener than that of the others. The Ninth is called the *Sour Bath*, which is set about with Balasters, and covered with a Cupola and Lanthorn; the Water is very clear, the Steam of it colours Money black, and yet, when once cold, it changes not the Colour of the Metals though boiled in it.

At *Mannersdorf* in *Austria*, on the East-Side of the River *Leyta*, there is only one Bath, situated under a Hill: Its Water is luke-warm, but if People wants it hotter, they boil it in great Coppers, and bathe in Tubs filled with it: From that Substance which sticks in the Coppers in boiling, it appears to be impregnated with Sulphur, Salt-petre, and Chalk: It tinges the Stones of a fair green; and its Steam, which sticks to the Moss under the Arch it flows through, turns into Drops of Gold-colour'd Amber.

At *Stuben* in *Hungary*, are seven Baths in great Esteem; their Water is clear, and smells of Sulphur, its Sediment is green; it
colours

colours the Wood over it green and black, but it don't change the Colour of Metals so soon as most of the others: The Springs rise underneath, and run through the Holes of the Flooring in the Baths.

At *Glass-bitten* are five Baths: The Water leaves a red Sediment, and incrustates the Wood under it with a stony Substance; it likewise gilds Silver: The most remarkable of these Baths is that called the *Sweating Bath*, whose Springs ouze through a Hill, and fall into a Bath built to receive them: At one End is an high Ascent into a Cave, which is become a noble Stove, by the Heat of those Waters, and the Seats in it are so disposed, that sitting higher or lower one may regulate the Sweating, by the Degrees of Heat: This Cave, as likewise the Sides of the Bath, are covered by the continual dropping of those hot Springs, with a red, white and green Substance, the red and green makes the best Shew, but the white is used in Physick and Surgery, it cures the Stone, and heals Ulcers and Sores in Horses.

At *Banca*, two *Hungarian* Miles from *Freystadt*, is a Quarry of white Stone near the hot Baths of that Place; over which is a Layer of Chalk, of about a Yard thick, which is very beautiful to the Eye, being of
all

all Colours except green, and so finely mix'd, streaked and shaded, that it surpasses Marbled-Paper, and the Water dropping upon it, does, as it were, varnish it.

The Waters call'd *Aponensia* five Miles from *Padua*, are very hot and stinking, but yield a great deal of very fine Salt, which is used in ordinary by the Natives; they gather it in the following Manner: After Sun-set they stir Pieces of Wood in the Water, and presently the Salt sticks to them, and comes off in small Flakes, exceeding white, and very salt: This Salt never loses its Savour. The Inhabitants whiten their Walls with this Water, which it does in a Manner far exceeding Lime: These Walls retain their Saltness only a few Days, and afterwards become insipid, but they sweat forth a white Excrecence of thin light Flakes, not unlike Nitre, for many Years after: The Salt collected from the Stones, Gravel, or Earth, through which the Rivulets, that fall from those Baths, do run, is entirely insipid, tho' it differs in nothing as to Form or Colour, from that gathered with wooden Sticks.

One of the most famous Baths, are those of the Bath of *Somersetshire*; they are of great Antiquity, and by some Antiquarians mentioned

mentioned to have been famous for above 800 Years before the Birth of Christ.

The Town of *Bath* and the Country about it abound some with cold, and some with hot Springs.

When the Wind is Westward, they feel a cold Air arising from beneath the *Cross Bath*; if East, and the Morning close, with a little missing Rain, the same Bath is so hot as not to be endured, when at the same Time the *King's* and *Hot Baths* are colder than usual: In other Winds, let the Weather be how it will, the *Cross Bath* is temperate.

The *Bath* Water does not pass thro' the Body like other Mineral Waters, but if Salt is put in, it purges presently; upon settling it affords a black Mud, which is useful in Aches, applied by Way of Cataplasm. The Colour of Salt drawn from the *King's* and *Hot Bath*, is yellow, and that of the *Cross Bath* white.

A Man cannot drink half the Quantity of strong Liquor in this Bath that he can out of it; but if he be drunk before, even to Excess, it refreshes him very much.

They are very useful in Diseases of the Head, the Palsy, Itch and Scabs; in Obstructions of the Bowels, the Spleen, and most Diseases incident to the Fair Sex: It
effectually

effectually cures the Distempers in Children, particularly the Rickets; it strengthens broken Bones, and is effectual in Weakness of the Nerves, and removes the Weakness in Gouts.

The *Cross Bath* corrodes Silver very much: A Shilling in a Weeks Time has been so eaten that it might be wound about one's Finger.

The Wells in the hot Springs are very deep laid, and large; ten Feet thick and fourteen deep from the Level of the Street: It has been observed that Leaves, like those of Olives, come sometimes out of the Pump of the Hot Bath.

The Baths of *Tritoli* in *Italy*, are very remarkable, as well for their Antiquity as Quality in curing all Manner of Distempers. The Entrance to them is through a Cave, which divides itself into seven Passages: Travellers who are minded to see these subterraneous Works of Antiquity, are conducted to the different Apartments by Guides. These Baths are said to be built by the Emperor *Nero*, and in Reality, they could be made by none but an Emperor, and such a one, as did not value the Toil, or indeed the Lives of his Slaves. The before-mentioned Passages are, 100 to 160 Paces long, cut out of a hard Rock, which lead

lead to Springs of several Degrees of Heat, some of which are scalding hot. The Water in these Baths flow once in the Day and once in the Night-time, namely, at Rising and Setting of the Moon.

A-Top of the Rock, at the Foot of which is the before-mentioned Cavern, there is another, which has this Quality, that as soon as one enters upright into it, it immediately causes Sweating to Excess, but when one stoops it makes one shake with cold. Deeper in that Cave, there is a scalding hot Spring; near it is another, which exceeds the former in Heat, and the Cave may not be entered without Hazard.

To take Notice of all the Caverns, Springs, and Baths in that District, would exceed the Bounds of our intended Brevity. There are above twenty of them, and there is no Distemper, but what a Remedy is said to be found at one or other: In former Days, the good Qualities of each Spring for particular Distempers, were denoted with graven Letters, over each Cave; which Letters have afterwards been caused to be defaced, as it is said, by some avaricious Physicians, who thought thereby to gain more Advantage for their Poekets.



B O O K V.

Historical Accounts of Shipwrecks and Distresses at Sea.

C H A P. I.

Of the most dreadful Shipwreck of the Portuguese Admiral Emanuel de Sofa.



HIS Gentleman and his Lady were settled in the *Indies*, but both having a strong Desire to return to their Native Country, he equipt a large Ship at *Cochin* (a City on the Coast of *Malabar*) and freighted it with very valuable Effects in Merchandize, and a great Treasure of Gold and Silver. The Admiral and his Lady, several young Children, some Relations, his domestick Servants and Slaves, together with the Sailors, amounting to the Number of 600 Souls.

Those who intend to go out to Sea from this Coast, commonly observe the Season,

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and

and are ready to set Sail in the Beginning of *January*, on account of the Changeableness of the Wind and Weather.

Sofa, with buying of Goods, and making other Preparations had retarded their Departure: They did not set sail before *February*, and arrived in *April* in Sight of the *Cape of Good Hope*; when from the West Point they were opposed with a terrible Storm, with Thunder and Lightning, so that the Ship was toss'd Mountain high. In this Condition they submitted to Providence, for human Help and Assistance was of no Signification: Their Sails were tore, their Masts and Rudders broke, great Part of the Freight was flung over-board, but all to no Purpose; they having in the utmost Consternation been tossed about by the raging Sea, were at last, by the South Wind, drove towards the Strand, where they could expect nothing else but to be demolish'd and shattered to Pieces. Here their Destruction seem'd to be unavoidable; they committed themselves to God's Mercy, and about a Musket-shot from Shore cast their Anchors, which happening to stick, gave them some Hopes of getting a-Shore in their Long-Boat, this was directly hoisted out, and the Admiral, his Lady, Children, and several of their Relations, and Persons of Distinction were

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were put on Shore, not without imminent Danger of being turned over by the boisterous Waves which beat from the Strand: In their Hurry they took with them such Things as were most valuable, as likewise some Provision.

Those unhappy Wretches that were left on Board, expected to be released when they saw the Long-Boat returning, but it was beat against the Ship and shatter'd to Pieces; at the same Time the Anchor-Cable tore, the Ship burst in two, and every one took hold of what offered first to favour his Escape: The one took Possession of a Cask; another laid hold of a Plank, or a Piece of Timber; another of a Chest; and committed themselves to the Mercy of the Waves. This occasioned a most dismal Prospect to those a-Shore: Forty of the *Portuguese* were at once swallowed up, and seventy of other Nations; the rest who kept a fast Hold of either Casks or Planks, were sometimes above, sometimes under Water; at last however, some got a-Shore, almost expired. No sooner were they landed, but they had the dismal Prospect of seeing the Wreck of their Ship break into an hundred or more Pieces. This put the *Portuguese* quite out of Heart; for they had proposed to themselves to build out of the Wreck a

small Vessel, in which they might go back, either to *Sofala*, or *Mosambique*; but in this they were now disappointed.

Mean while the Autumn advanced, and they were sensible of the approaching Cold; wherefore *Sofa* gave Orders to prepare for Winter Quarters. [We must know, when that Part of the World which lies thirty-one Degrees of South, has the Winter, we, in our Climate, are visited by the Summer Season.] What Provision was left or saved from on Board, was carefully and sparingly distributed, since they could promise themselves no Supply among a Nation of Canibals and wild People. In that Neighbourhood they discovered some Springs of fresh Water, to which they removed, and with their Chests, Tubs, Planks, and other Things which they had sav'd, they fenced themselves as well as they could, against any sudden Assault from the Natives; they set Centinels, and kept a strict Watch both Night and Day.

Here they rested and refreshed their wearied Limbs for thirteen Days, after which they deliberated how to proceed, and come to a Resolution to travel along the Strand to that River, formerly called the River *S. Spirito*, where the *Portugueze* used to carry on Merchandize from *Sofala* and *Mosambique*.
This

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This River was from their Encampment no less than 180 Leagues. The Admiral, after they had all agreed, spoke to them in a handsome Manner, and encouraged them with Hopes of better Success; he admonished them to keep close in a Body, to be the better able to withstand the strolling Parties of the *Moors*; he at last recommended his Lady as an Object of Pity and Compassion, desiring, that on Account of her Sex and tender Constitution she might be assisted in making her Journey as easy as possible. After *Sofa* had done speaking, they unanimously promised to follow his Directions in every Respect, and take particular Care of his Lady and Children.

Sofa then gave Orders to set out from thence: He marched before them as their Captain, accompanied by his Lady and Children; these were followed by the Captain of the lost Ship, who carried a Banner with a Cross thereon; after him were eighty *Portuguese*, also above an hundred Servants, (who afterwards carried the Lady *Sofa* on a Bier, and the Children in their Arms, by Turns;) these had the Sailors, Servants, and Slaves behind them; and the Train was closed by *Pantaleon* a noble *Portuguese*.

In this Order they marched two Day's Journey thro' a Country, which, on Account of the barbarous *Moors* and wild Beasts, was very dangerous, till they were obstructed by inaccessible Rocks, prodigious high Mountains, dreadful Vallies, boggy Marshes, and several Rivers, which by the late Rains were swelled very high above their Banks; to shun all these Obstacles, they were obliged to take round about Turns, whereby instead of thirty Leagues they travelled above an hundred: They had pursued their toilsome Journey for a Month, when they found their Provisions fail, and were exposed to Hunger and Thirst. Whilst they were travelling along the Sea Coast, they made shift to satisfy Nature with Oysters, Muscles, dead Fish, and other such Discharges of the Sea; and passing through Countries distant from Shore, they fed upon Berries, Pine-Apples, Knobs and Sprouts of Trees, and what they could light on. They were likewise in great Want of Water, for the Access to Rivers or Springs being very dangerous, they were weakened by Fatigue, Hunger, and Thirst, some dropt down by the Way, where they were left a Prey for the wild Birds and Beasts, or a Prize for the barbarous *Moors*: At last, they were not able

to assist one another ; every one began to look to himself, how to avoid the approaching Fate of Death : Misfortunes, Crosses, Apprehensions, Fears and Fatigue, did change their Nature so, that they lost all Charity, Love, and Pity towards each other ; and the Weight of Misery had made them almost wild and distracted.

Sofa bore these Perplexities with Patience to Admiration, he shewed to his Followers an Example of Courage and Resolution, notwithstanding their Diminution was a wounding Cut to his Heart : *Elenora*, his faithful Partner both in Prosperity and Adversity bore these Calamities with equal Patience ; she did not sink down when the feeble Limbs of her People were not able to carry her any farther, but kept on, and thereby encouraged the rest to do the same.

After a long, as well as fatigueing and dreadful Journey, they arrived at last, in four Months to the River *Santo Spirito*, unknown to them, because they did not find it so broad as had been represented to them ; for that River divides itself into three Arms, which unite again at some Distance. They were now in a Country where none of them could understand the Language, nor inform themselves about any Thing : However,

Providence directed them to the King, who received *Sofa* and all his Followers with great Marks of Friendship, Tenderneſs and Affection; and by few Words, and a great many Signs, *Sofa* could apprehend his good Intention. This *Mooriſh* King would by no Means have *Sofa* purſue his Journey, but wait till ſome Ships ſhould come from *Sofala*; he intimated that the neighbouring King, thro' whoſe Country they muſt paſs, was of a cruel and tyrannical Diſpoſition, and that they would run a great Riſque of being plundered and abuſed.

But *Sofa* having conceived a Jealouſy of this good and honeſt King; all the repeated Intreaties could not perſuade him to ſtay, but he was reſolv'd to proceed in his Journey; wherefore after they had reſted five Days, they departed, being furniſh'd by that King with Canoes to croſs the River. Here they were 300 Leagues from where they ſuffered Shipwreck, and out of 500 Perſons, they could muſter up no more than 150.

The next Morning, as ſoon as the Sun appeared above the Horizon, they purſued their Travels, but were not a little ſurpriz'd, when at ſome Diſtance, they eſpied about 200 *Moors*, who marched directly to meet them. Thoſe poor Pilgrims, however

ever, prepared for Battle, tho' doubtful of Success, on account of their Weakness: But the Rovers did not intend to make bloody work with them, but only designed to trepan these unhappy People by Treachery. The *Moorish* Captain, in a friendly and cautious Behaviour, ask'd *Sofa* what People they were, and whence they came? This encouraged the *Portuguese* to open their Minds freely and relate to him all the Adventures that had befallen them, and the miserable State they were in; and being reduced to Want, they desired the *Moors* to furnish them with some Provision, for which they offered to pay, and in order to work themselves more into their Favour, they looked out for some Iron and Brass Toys, to make Presents among them. This Liberality proved more to their Ruin than Advantage; for it put the *Moors* upon Thoughts that there was a fair Opportunity of making a good Booty, but how to accomplish their wicked Intention they were at a Loss. They told the *Portuguese* that they had no Provision at Hand, but not far off was a Town, where resided their King, who would be ready to do them all the Service in his Power. *Sofa* saw no other Means to keep himself and his Retinue from perishing, accepted the *Moors* Profer: They went

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before,

before, and the *Portugueze* followed them to the Town; but when they were just upon entering that Place, the King sent a Messenger to stop them, and directed them to take up their Residence in a Grove of large Trees: Here they continued for six Days; they purchased some Meat and other Necessaries, for a Parcel of old Nails which they had faved out of the Wreck that had been washed on Shore; they also quenched their Thirst at a neighbouring Well. Having by Degrees gained some Acquaintance with the Inhabitants of the Town; *Sofa* was mislead by his good Nature, in putting too much Confidence in those treacherous People. He proposed to wait the Arrival of some Merchants from *Sofala*, if he and his Family in the mean Time could be better accommodated. The *Moors* approv'd his Project, and proffer'd their Service to bring him before the King, who without doubt would grant him his Desire, and provide for him to his Satisfaction.

The King having received their Message, sent them for Answer, that both *Sofa*, and all his Company might be assured that himself and his Family had always entertained a good Liking and Friendship to Strangers, and that not having shewn it more readily to them, had been occasioned for two material

terial Reasons. The first was the Scarcity of Provisions in that Town, their Number being too great to be all accomodaaed in one Place. The second was, that his naked Subjects, armed with nothing but Sticks, stood in dread of their warlike Weapons, as Swords, Launces, &c. If therefore the *Portugueze*, as a Security for their peaceable Behaviour, would deliver their Arms till their Departue, he would readily accommodate the principal Persons of the *Portugueze* in his Residence, and quarter the rest in the adjacent Villages about that Town.

The *Portugueze* were at first startled at these Proposals; but being in a very miserable Condition, *Sofa* agreed to them, the rest gave their Consent, except *Elenora*, who rejected them with all the Arguments she was Mistress off; but it was to no Purpose: They delivered their Arms, which were sent directly to the King. *Sofa*, with his Lady, Children, and twenty more of the principal *Portugueze*, were then conducted to the King's Court; the rest of the Retinue were divided by five or six Persons, and ordered to the neighbouring Villages. They were no sooner arrived to their Huts, than those treacherous Rogues not only rifled their Pockets of what Money
and

and Jewels they had concealed, but tore their Cloaths from off their Backs, and stript them quite naked: They fed them indeed that Night, but in a poor and pitiful Manner; and the next Morning they beat and hunted them, naked as they were, out of their Villages.

The Admiral was no better treated by the King; for a villainous and barbarous Plot had been concerted between the King and his Subjects, and both had agreed upon a Method of putting their wicked Design in Execution.

The credulous *Sofa*, his unhappy Lady, and all the rest of that unfortunate Company, had no sooner entered the King's Court, but they were pillag'd and robb'd of all their Jewels, Gold, and valuable Things, they had concealed about them. The King himself was very busy in laying hold of every Thing he liked best, and with opprobrious Language called them Pyrates, and common Enemies to his Country: After they had cleared their Pockets, they were so generous as to leave them their Cloaths, and so turned them all out of Doors. *Sofa* now, too late, repented his making flight of *Elenora's* Advice and Resolution.

But their Misfortunes, instead of ending here, rather took a more fatal Beginning:
Being

Being thus turned out into the wide World, and wandering together in a Body, not knowing where; without a Guide, and without the least Notion how to direct their Course, like a Number of stray'd Sheep, under continual Apprehensions of being devoured by wild Beasts. They had not gone far, before a Party of *Moors*, with pointed Staves in their Hands, assaulted them: It was in vain to resist them, or even adviseable to shew an angry Countenance to them: These Robbers, without Regard to Sex or Decency, stript all the Company stark naked: None had the Courage to make the least Resistance against those Barbarians, except *Elenora*, whose noble Extraction had fired her Blood with a Resolution rather to die on the Spot, than to be exposed to those inhuman and savage Wretches: She defended her Person for a considerable while, and kept those Brutes off with as heavy Blows as her still remaining Strength would afford, till at last being overpowered, and wearied in the Struggle, she was obliged to yield. But O! what Horror, Distraction, and Anguish appear'd in her, when she found her chaste and unpolluted Body exposed naked to the View of all the Company! She directly took her Children, and at some Distance, buried the lower Part of her

her Body in the Sand ; then calling to the Captain of their lost Ship, and the rest that were left, she thanked them for their Constancy in accompanying her and her Husband, and for sharing in her Misfortunes without murmuring : She then dismiss'd them, and having taken her Leave, desired, if any of them by Providence should be brought to *Portugal*, they would tell her Friends and Relations of her tragical Fate. Here she broke off, and *Sofa* could not stop the Torrent of Tears that gush'd from his Eyes. His only Comfort and dearest Companion lay fainting, and his lovely Children almost famished for want of Nourishment, which made him search the Woods for something for Refreshment : But at his Return he found his Lady in a languishing Condition, and one of his Children dead, which he buried with his own Hands.

The next Day he went again to the Woods to seek for Food, but at his Return found his most beloved *Elenora* dead ; his second Son expired by her Side ; and her Servant Maids, wringing their Hands, and shedding Floods of Tears for the Loss of their dear Mistress.

The Admiral then desired the Company present to withdraw a little, and laid his Head in the Arms of his deceased Comfort,
perhaps

perhaps in Expectation that his Grief would send him after her; and having kissed her Lips, he thought it was his Duty to secure that Vessel of Chastity and Virtue from the Prey of Lions, Tygers, or ravenous Birds, and therefore buried her and the Child, laying heavy Stones upon the Grave, in order to keep their Bodies more secure: He then was observed to withdraw into the Woods, from whence he was not seen to return, so that the remaining Company concluded he was devoured by wild Beasts. This was the tragical End of the Shipwreck and Pilgrimage of *Sosa*, his Wife, and Children, which happen'd in 1553. The rest of the Company, which like Fugetives, were wandering up and down the Country in Hunger, Thirst, Nakedness, and other Sufferings, dropt one after another, till the Number was decreased to twenty-six, when at last they happened to fall into the Hands of some *Portuguese* Merchants, who were come into that Country to buy Elephant's Teeth, and carried them safe to *Lisbon*.

C H A P. II.

*Of the great Distress and Shipwreck of the
St. Jago.*

IT was in the Year 1585, when the *Spanish* Admiral *Ferdinand de Mendoza*, on board the great Ship *St. Jago*, arrived with a fair Wind, within Sight of the *Cape of Good Hope*, and thought himself out of the Reach of Danger. They steer'd their Course between the Coasts of the Island of *Madagascar* and the Continent of *Africa*, this at their left, and the Island at their right Hand.

Those who have frequented these Seas, must needs remember the great many Rocks, which make this Passage dangerous, and are known all the World over, by the Name of *Iaixas di India*. They lie about fifty *Spanish* Miles from the said Island, and seventy from the Continent, opposite *Sofala*: They consist for a great Part of sharp and clear Coral of various Colours, and the Sailors must use their utmost Skill, if they will pass them safe, and shun their immediate Danger.

The

The Admiral being in this Latitude, and according to every Body's Opinion, near those dangerous Rocks, the Steersman took the Height of the Sun, and making his Calculation that they were past the Place, gave Orders to hoist all the Sails, and to make their Course directly to *Mosambique*. There were great Numbers of Sailors on board the Ship, who, as well as the Captain and other Officers, were provided with Sea-Charts and other Instruments, and all agreed to keep the Sails sometime longer upon Deck; for they were of Opinion, they still had the dangerous Passage before them: But the Steersman was obstinate, and to shew that his Knowledge as well as Authority in managing the Ship was superior to all the rest, he ordered the Sails to be put up.

Thus with a fair Wind they sailed till Midnight, when on a sudden, the Ship struck with a terrible Force against the Rocks, by which it was cut in two: One Side floated a little Way, the other Part, with the Keel, stuck fast at once.

There were above 500 Souls on board this Ship, among which were thirty Women, and a great Number of Jesuits and Friars: But here was nothing else to do but to confess, to bid fare-well to each other, to lament,

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ment, to weep, to pray, and to commit their Souls to God; and the Terror, Fright, and Confusion every one was in is better imagined than expressed.

The Admiral *Ferdinand de Mendoza*, the Captain, and ten or twelve more besides, made what haste they could into the small Boat, defending it from being entered by more, with Sword in Hand, to see whether they could discover a Place, where they might put in, in order to build a small Vessel out of the Wreck, thereby to save themselves, and to get a-Shore. They left the rest upon the Rock between Hope and Despair; and having row'd about and found no such convenient Place, they did not venture to return to the distressed Multitude; but seeing they could be of no Service to them, resolv'd to make up for the Continent of *Africa*. In their Fright and Hurry they had flung a few Boxes with Marmalade, a small Cask of Wine, and a few Bisquets, into the Boat; which however was very insufficient for their Voyage, they being seventeen Days upon the Sea, and underwent great Hunger, Thirst, and Labour.

The unhappy People upon the Wreck were in the utmost Despair, seeing themselves quite forsaken by the Admiral and
his

his Company: At last the Ship's Deck burst open, and they discover'd the Long-Boat, which before had been under-water: All were dejected, none laid Hands to any Thing, but one looked upon the other with Compassion, Dread, Horror, and Despair; till *Cyprian Grimaldo*, an *Italian*, spoke to the rest, and said; Why, Gentlemen, are we all thus cast down and terrify'd, and all this While not thinking to save ourselves; had we not better to take up Courage, and try whether we can escape the Danger we are in? Having said this, he jumped into the Boat, Sword in Hand, and scooped out the Water, which encouraged others to do the same; they patched up the Boat, and flung what came first to hand into her. At last, there were above ninety Persons in the Boat, and a great many had taken hold of the Sides: But to prevent the sinking of the Boat with those that were in her, they chop'd off the Hands and Arms of such who had taken hold to save themselves: Then taking their Farewell of those screaming, crying, and lamentable Wretches upon the Wreck, they rowed away, in Hopes of making some Shore or other.

They labour'd for several Days, and had been very sparing in dividing their Provisions, but found they had made no great Way,

Way, and their Boat being heavy, they were apprehensive of sinking. At last they came to a Resolution to chuse a Captain among themselves, which was *Grimaldo* the *Italian*: They all obliged themselves to obey his Commands, in whatever he should judge necessary to be observed. *Grimaldo* readily accepted of that Post, and the first Thing which he thought to be absolutely necessary, was, to have the Boat lightened, by flinging over-board some Passengers, especially such as were feeble, and had no Strength to make any considerable Resistance. Among the unhappy Wretches that were fix'd upon to be drowned, was a Ship's Carpenter, who had helped to mend and refit the Boat. When he found he was condemned, he begged to have first a little Marmalade, and a Glass of Wine given him, and then he willingly would resign himself to his Fate, which being granted him, he readily flung himself into the Sea. Another of these unhappy Victims was one who had a younger Brother in the Boat, who when he saw that his Brother was going to be flung over-board, he pray'd them for God's Sake to save his Life, and that he was ready to perish himself in his stead; nor could he be dissuaded from it. But when he was flung into the Sea, he swam
for

for six Hours, and pursued the Boat, endeavouring to lay hold of her, and notwithstanding their pushing him off, and wounding his Hands with their Weapons, he catched hold of one, which he kept so eagerly, till the Company, mov'd with Compassion receiv'd him into the Boat again, and thus saved his Life, which he had offer'd to sacrifice for that of his Brother's. *Linshot*, who has penn'd down this History, says, that he has seen and conversed with these two Brothers at *Goa*.

The Company in the Long-Boat, having been for twenty Days at Sea, and suffered great Hardships, at last got safe on Shore, where they found the Admiral, with the rest of those who had betook themselves to the Small-Boat. They suffered a great deal after this before they could get to *Mosambique*: The *Cafres* stripp'd them of all their Cloaths; and it is impossible to express, what Dangers, Fatigues, Hunger, and Misery they underwent: Several of them died by the Way; no more than sixty Persons arriv'd at *Mosambique*, where they were refresh'd and taken Care off. Of those unfortunate Souls that were left upon the Wreck, nothing was ever after heard of, who, no doubt, were either drown'd, or perished for want of Necessaries.

C H A P. III.

Of the dismal Shipwreck of a Dutch East-India Man.

Captain *Bontekue*, Commander of the *New Horn*, a Dutch East-India Man, having himself given the following Account in Dutch, we have translated it from his own Words.

Being bound from *Amsterdam* for *Batavia*, says he, we had on Board 260 Men; when on the 28th of *December* 1618, we set sail from the *Texel*, and having passed *Plymouth* the 31st, we steer'd our Course S. S. W. The 5th of *January* at Night, we had a rough Sea, by which Means our Ship was fill'd below the Upper-Deck half full of Water, and was in Danger of Sinking; but the Port-Holes being shut, I encouraged the Ship's Crew to pump, and fling the Water out with Scoops. The Wind and Weather still continuing boisterous and rainy, inso-much, that the Clouds and Earth seem'd to be link'd together, and the Sea as it were on Fire.

The 6th, 7th, and 8th the Storm continued, we had our Main-Mast broke; however,

however, we preserved it, with an Intent to put it up again as soon as we had a Calm, which happened on the 20th, when we refitted our Ship as well as we were able: Then we set Sail S. S. W. for the *Canary Islands*, which we passed, having a full View of them the 23d. Then endeavouring to discover the Island *St. Anthony*, in order to take in some Refreshments, we steered our Course towards the *Verd Islands*, and being come in Sight of them, we had a Calm, and cast Anchor; some of our Ship's Crew rowed in the Long-Boat towards the Shore, but before they landed they were saluted by the *Spaniards* with Musket-Balls; and finding that they were no welcome Guests, they returned to the Ship: Having repair'd it, and made every Thing tight, and the Main Mast as firm as when first we went from *Holland*; we set Sail, and passed the Equinoxial Line. Here many of our Men fell sick, and upon the Desire of the whole Ship's Crew, I was prevail'd upon to steer for the Island of *Madagascar*, in order to refresh ourselves: We made up towards the Bay of *St. Lewis*, and being arrived there, I, together with a good Number of Sailors, got into the Long-Boat and went a-Shore, where we met with several of the Natives; but we could not understand them, neither
could

could we see any Likelihood of procuring any Refreshment for our Sick. Thus disappointed we returned to the Ship, without receiving the least Reward for all our Labour, to the great Trouble and Concern of all the Ship's Crew. Then we sailed Southwards, and anchor'd near the East Side of that Island, called the *Maskarines*, here the Sick were landed, who, as soon as they set Foot on Shore, made with all Speed to a Field of Grass, in which they rolled, and found themselves wonderfully refreshed : We saw in this Quarter large Flights of Pidgeons and other Wild-Fowl, they were not in the least startled at our Approach, and we had no need to use our Fire-Arms, since we could take most of them with our Hands, and such as were out of our Reach we knocked down with a Stick ; by these Means we kill'd that Day above 200 ; we boil'd some for the Sick, and the rest we roasted ; we likewise found many Land-Tortoises, which we stew'd with Prunes, and made an elegant Dish.

After all our Crew had encamped here, and pitched up their Tents, I returned on board our Ship, but finding it did not ride safe at Anchor where it was, I sailed in the Long-Boat about twenty Miles along the Strand, and lighting at last on a sandy Bay
which

which led to a Land-Water; we got on Shore, and were highly pleased with the Pleasantness and Plenty of that little Island; I then made what Haste I could to return on board our Ship, brought the good News to the Crew, and all the Passengers that were with us; we took in the Sick, and sail'd for that Bay: Arriving there, we cast Anchor, and landed all the People, who refreshed themselves at a clear and fresh Water Rivulet. We found Plenty of Geese, Parrots, and other Fowls; at low Water we caught Abundance of Eels, and casting our Nets, we got a Variety of Fish; we observ'd the Tortoises come in the Morning out of the Sea, and scratching Holes in the Sand, laid their Eggs in them, in great Quantities, that then they covered them with Sand again, the Sun about Noon shining hot upon them, young Tortoises issued from them, which are about the Bigness of a small Nut. After we had continued there for twenty-one Days, and laid in a sufficient Quantity of dry'd Greefe, Fowls, Tortoises, Fish, and fresh Water, we embarked on board our Ship, and set sail for the *Maurice Island*; but missing the Sight of it, and several of our Crew not being entirely recovered, we made up towards the Island of

St. Maria, situated near the Island of *Madagascar*. Some of the Natives, as soon as they saw us advancing, came in their Canoes, and brought us Apples, Lemons, Rice, and Fowls. They informed us likewise, that they had Plenty of Corn, Sheep, and Poultry; we gave them some Wine to drink, which made them as merry as a Set of Morrice Dancers; here we went daily a-Shore and bartered with the Inhabitants for all Manner of Provisions in Lieu of some Spoons, Knives, Beads, and other trifling Trinkets. They brought Milk to us in Leaves, close and nicely platted together, as to keep so tight, that not one Drop was lost; and when we had Occasion to use it, we only cut a Hole in the Leaf, and poured it out. Having refreshed our Sick, we set sail again for the Streights of *Sunda*, which we passed the tenth of *November*, 1619.

That very Day proved fatal to us: Our Butler going to fill a small Cask of Brandy, stuck his Candle against an Anchor that stood higher than that out of which he drew the Brandy; a Snuff falling into the Bung-hole set it on Fire; the Bottom of the Anchor burst, and all the Brandy run down to a Place where were a Heap of Sea-Coal; hereupon they cry'd *Fire, Fire*. I ran down immediately,

immediately, enquiring where the Fire was; they answered, it was in the Anchor of Brandy, but putting my Hand in to the Bung-hole, could perceive none; the Butler having flung a couple of Pails of Water into the Anchor, I ordered him to pour in a couple more, and then we thought all the Danger was past, till about half an Hour after, they cry'd out again, *Fire, Fire*; which put us all in a general Consternation, and the more, when we saw it come from the lower Deck. All Hands were set to work to sling Water, which caused a prodigious Smother, insomuch, that we were almost suffocated, and I believe several of our Men perished at that Time. We had a large Quantity of Gun-powder, which I thought adviseable to have flung over-board. Whilst I was thus busied with giving the necessary Orders for extinguishing the Fire, some of our Crew got into the Long-Boat by Stealth, and when they thought they had a sufficient Number, they took in the Consul, cut the Rope, and made the best of their Way, leaving us to shift for ourselves. Whilst I was yet very busy, some of our Men came to me in the greatest Consternation, and with doleful Cries, said, *Good Captain, what must we do, we are undone? For God's Sake what is the Matter?* said I:

They replied ; *O, we are betray'd and undone, some of our Men have deserted us in the Long and Small Boats, and are rowing off full Speed.* I presently got upon Deck, and found to my great Surprize, it was so ; then I ordered to hoist all the Sails of the Ship, and if possible to run them aground ; but they perceiving this, rowed against the Wind, and did all they cou'd to keep at a Distance : Seeing it was impossible to accomplish my Design, I animated the remaining Crew to be of good Courage, and to do their utmost Endeavour to quench the Fire ; I ordered several Holes to be bored, to let the Water in so far as the lower Deck, and by that Means to quench the Fire, but this proved unsuccessful, because of the Iron-Work that obstructed the Workmen's Gimblets. The mean while we were thus employ'd, the Fire got to the Oil, of which we had a large Quantity on Board, when we saw this, then all our Courage fail'd us, nothing was heard but Lamentation and Cries, every one was struck with Horror and Despair, for the more Water we flung, the greater was the Flame ; in this terrible Condition, however, we were casting over-board the Barrels of Gun-powder, as fast as possible, and had dispatched above three-score, when the Fire reached the Remainder, which

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which was about three hundred Barrels, and with which the Ship with 134 Persons was blown up. Whilst I was carried into the Air, I had still the Presence of Mind to commit my Soul to God, expecting nothing but Death, then falling into the Sea, among the Wreck, which swam about in thousands of Pieces, and finding myself in the Water, and alive, I was as it were, animated with fresh Courage, and seeing the Main-Mast swimming near me, I got upon it, when looking about me, I saw the Ruins of a fine Ship, and the Destruction of so many brave Men and Goods; I could perceive in this horrid Prospect. none alive but myself; but whilst I was thus contemplating on our Misfortune, up starts a young Man, not far from me, he, as though he were in a great Fright and Hurry, cry'd out, *I am ready, I am ready*, imagining himself to be still busy on Board the Ship to quench the Fire; the Sight of him overjoy'd me, I call'd to him, and when he saw me, he made up as fast as he could, and got upon the Main-Mast along with me; we looked about us to see whether we could espy our Boats, which we did, but at such a Distance, that we could not perceive whether they were coming to us or going from us. The Sun was now taking its Leave of the Horizon, and we

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saw no Likelihood of any human Assistance, we therefore prayed to God to deliver us according to his blessed Will. Our Prayers were heard, for looking about us again, the Boats were just near us, this created an exceeding Gladness amongst us all; as soon as they saw me, they shouted, and cry'd out for Joy; *Our Captain lives! Our Captain lives!* They haled us with Ropes they flung to us, into the Boat, to the great Satisfaction of us all. I was very much bruised in my Back by the Fall I had when blown up, and had also two Holes in my Head, so that I did not expect to live; however, I advised the Consul and the rest of the Men to continue about the Wreck of the Ship all Night, till next Morning; perhaps, said I, you will light of a Compass to direct our Course, or of some Provisions, of which we are in great Want; for we had neither Compass nor any other Sea-Instrument, neither had they in their Hurry laid in much Provision; but whilst I was taking a little Rest, the Consul ordered the Men to row all Night long, thinking to make Land by the next Morning, but when they found themselves mistaken, they came to me for Advice, telling me that they had lost the Wreck, and in no Sight of Land; that they had no Com-
pas,

pass, Chart, or Provision, and they were in the utmost Distress. I answered them, *If you had followed my Advice, you might have fared better.* But, replied they, *it is now too late, tell us, good Captain, what we must do, we will follow your Advice in every Thing.* Well then, said I, *if I must assist you, you must help me up,* which they did; seeing all Hands a rowing, I asked, *what Provision they had?* and they brought out about seven or eight Pound of Bread; I then ordered to take in the Oars, and not to weaken themselves by over hard Labour, since they had not wherewithal to sustain Nature: *What then must be done to make Land,* said they; I told them, *strip off your Shirts and make Sails thereof,* which they did accordingly, in the best Manner they were able. We then counted our Company, and found in the Long-boat 46, in the small 26 Persons, in all 72 Persons. I profered to strip off my Shirt, but they would not suffer it, because of my Indisposition. All the Day we let the Boat drive, and were busy in making of Sails, in the Night we put them up, and steered our Course by the Stars, knowing in what Quarter they rose or set. We had among our Men a Box-maker, who had a Pair of Compasses in his Pocket, he and I contrived several Instruments that

were of some Use. We were from the twentieth of *November* to the second of *December* drove about, expecting every Day to see Land. Our seven or eight Pound of Bread was soon gone, although every Man had no more than the Bigness of a Walnut a Day. We also were in great Want of fresh Water: One Day, when we were all in Despair, and ready to perish with Hunger and Thirst, God's Providence sent a Parcel of Water-Fowls, who, as it were, voluntarily surrendered themselves into our Hands, we killed them, plucked their Feathers, and made, raw as they were, the daintiest Meal we ever had eat in our Lives; but then our Misery began again, and having taken the Men out of the small Boat, we resolved to die together; we were looking on one another with Pity and Concern, each spoke Comfort to the other, though he wanted it himself. Being again in the utmost Distress, another Instance of Divine Providence shewed itself, in that a large Shoal of flying Fish started out of the Sea, unawares, and, when we least expected it, we had a plentiful Meal; but, however, this also was soon over, and we were the next Day in as much Perplexity as we had been before; nevertheless, we at last looked upon those
Providential

Providential Means for the Preservatives of our Lives, since none of all our Men perished with Hunger. I encouraged them, and assured them they would see Land every Day, till at last they grew weary and gave over all Hopes, they began to despair, looking with envious Eyes, as if they could devour one another; each drank his own Urine as long as it was fit to drink, and at last it was agreed, that, in case we should not see Land, to kill and eat the Cabin Boy.

On the second of *December* we had a Calm, but the Sky soon grew dark, and a Rain ensued, we caught what Water we could, and were very much refreshed with it. At that Time I was steering the Boat, and watched with Impatience to see Land every Minute, but the Cold and Damp being so sharp, I was obliged to retire; the Steersman had not been above an Hour in my Post, but he cry'd out *Land! Land!* We also looked out and saw the Land just before us; we made up to it with Hearts full of Joy and Gladness, returning Thanks to God, for having delivered us from the the Danger we were in, that being the last Day fixed for the Slaughter of the Cabin-Boy.

We found in the Island Abundance of Cocoa-Trees, the Juice whereof served us instead of fresh Water, of which we were

still in Want. We eat so immoderately of the Nuts, that we were soon afflicted with an intolerable Pain in the Bowels ; but it being attended the next Morning with a Purging, we grew easy, and were able to look about us : We ranged all over the Island, but found no Inhabitants ; we perceived, however, the Footsteps of some People that had landed there : We could find no other Provision but Cocoa-Nuts, of which we took a good Store into our Boat, the old ones served for Victuals, and the Milk of the young ones for Drink. We then set sail for *Sumatra*, of which the next Day we got Sight, sailing along the Strand, till our Nuts were almost consumed ; our Men unanimously agreed to land again, in order to take in Provisions. We then endeavouring to find a safe Landing-Place, the Sea beating very rough against the Beach, we durst not venture, till we saw a Creek, into which a Rivulet of fresh Water ran. With great Danger, as well as Fatigue, we rowed up, as far as the Boughs of the Trees, which hung over the River, would permit us : After we had landed, we found the Country rich of Pasture ; and, in searching about, at a Corner of a certain Place, we found some Fire and a little Tobacco, which we imagined

to have been left by some of the Natives. Our Men had among them no other Weapons or Arms than a couple of Hatchets and an old rusty Sword, wherewith they cut Branches of Trees, and made Fires in five or six Places, about which we divided in different Companies, and at Night we made a large Fire, placed Centries at proper Distances, and were upon our Guard against any sudden Attack of the Natives. We were that Night, all of us taken very ill of the Gripping of the Guts, occasioned by the Beans and Fruit we had eaten the Day before ; when, all on a sudden, our Centries discovering a Body of Men at a Distance, advertized us of their coming, we each got a Fire-brand and went in quest of them, who as soon as they saw us, retired behind the Bushes, and we returned to our Fires, watching all Night, under a dreadful Apprehension of their visiting us again. In the Morning as soon as it was Day-Light, three of the Natives came from behind the Bushes, informing themselves who we were, and upon what Errand we came thither ? We acquainted them of what had happened, and of the Distress we had been in for Want of Provision ; they told us, that we might be provided with Fowls and Rice ; and having purchased some of both,

both, we dress'd and eat as much as we cared for; then I, with some of our Men, went up the River to a Village the Natives had directed us to, where, for the Money we had about us, we bought Poultry, Rice, and a Buffelo; having paid for these Commodities, the Buffelo got loose, and no body being able to catch him, my four Sailors that accompanied me, desired they might stay there that Night, and the next Morning, they did not fear, but to bring him on Board; upon their repeated Instances, I gave them Leave, and wishing each other a good Night, I got into our Boat, at which Time two Parties of the Natives jostling one against another, as if they intended to obstruct my Passage, I thought proper, though my Heart almost fail'd me, to shew myself a Man of Courage, and therefore took two of the Fellows by the Arms, forced them into the Boat and bid them put off, which accordingly they did; after they had carried me some Part down the River, one of these Wretches came and signified to me that he wanted Money, I gave him a Piece, and having turned it over and over again, and looked upon it, he tied it in the Cloth he had about his Waste, and went to his Place again; in the same Manner I was obliged to satisfy his
Com-

Companion. I sat here as a Sheep between two Wolves, expecting every Moment to be knocked on the Head, and whilst I was under the greatest Apprehension, Dread, and Fear, I was all on a sudden, as it were, inspired to echo among the Trees, with which the Banks of the River were plentifully stor'd, a merry Song; this pleased these Savages so much, that they began to laugh and caper, and carried me safe to our People, who were overjoy'd to see me, telling them what Business I had done, and how the four Mates, were next Morning to bring the Provision I had bought. As soon as the Sun was above the Horizon, we saw some of the Natives drive a Buffelo, but not what I had bought, before them, and coming up to us, we enquired after our Men, and were told, that they were coming with the other Beast, which made us easy; but the Buffelo they had brought, being very wild and unruly, I ordered one of our Men to cut his Sinews in order to prevent his Capering, which they did: The Natives seeing this, began to set up a lamentable Howling, and in a Moment's Time, above 300 of their People appeared from behind the Bushes: We seeing ourselves in the utmost Danger, made to our Boat as fast as possible; those who had not Time to
get

get in, swam after it: We were pursued by the Savages, and some of our Men lost their Lives, being run through with Hassagays, or Launces. What became of the four Mates, that were left behind the Day before, is easy to be conjectured, for no doubt they fell a Sacrifice to the Resentment of those Savages.

We had no more than eight Fowls among fifty-six Persons, which we soon consumed, and being driven to great Distress, we resolved to make up a-Shore, and coming near, we saw a great Number of wild People, but at our Landing they withdrew, and we could light on no Provisions, but contented ourselves with drinking and laying in some fresh Water, and fed upon some Oysters, and Muscles, which we found on the Strand. We then pursued our Voyage, and the next Morning, we saw three Islands; making up to one, we found there fresh Water, and great Quantities of Bamboes Reeds, as thick as a Man's Arm; we forced the Joints open, except the lowermost, fill'd them with fresh Water, and then laid up a great Store. We also found Palm Trees, the young Tops whereof served us for Food, we hunted the Island over, but found nothing else for our Relief. I got myself on the Top of a high Rock,
from

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from whence I could perceive two blue Hills, which I conjectured to be the Coast of *Japan*, at which I was heartily rejoiced, and acquainting our People with what I had seen, we all embarked and steered our Course towards that Quarter; by the next Morning we could perceive a Harbour, and told about 23 Ships therein, which happened to be *Dutch* Merchantmen, and being safe arrived, we were kindly received, and refreshed. Having returned God Thanks for this wonderful Deliverance, we were in a Sloop sent to the Governor of *Batavia*, who received us kindly, and being cloathed, we were employed on Board such Vessels, by which the Trade of those Countries is carried on, and I was continued in the Post of Captain.

C H A P. IV.

Captain Iverson's Shipwreck, and surprizing Adventures.

Captain *Iverson* was born at *Husum*, in the Dutchy of *Sleswick*: Having serv'd his Apprenticeship to a Book-binder, he worked Journey-work at *Amsterdam*, where falling into Company with some *East-India* Sailors,

Sailors, they enticed him for to enter into the *East-India* Company's Service; accordingly his Captain set sail in the Beginning of *April*, 1655. Of his Adventures, he himself gives the following Account:

After I had serv'd the *East-India* Company for five Years together, in the *Molucca* Islands, particularly at *Amboina*, *Ceram*, and *Benda*, I had a great Inclination to remove from those remote Parts of the World to my Native Country again: I therefore applied to the *Dutch* Governors, who readily gave me Leave to sail with the first Opportunity for *Batavia*, in order to receive a Pass-port from the Governor there; which having been granted to me, on the twenty-third of *December* 1661, we set sail with seven Ships from *Batavia* for *Holland*.

The Wind being West, we were obliged to cast our Anchors the same Evening, and it was a Fortnight before we quitted the Channel.

The 5th of *January* we got into the open Sea, and we had fair Wind and Weather till the 9th of *February*, when it began to blow pretty hard from the East Point: We steer'd W. S. W. Towards Night the Ship rolled from one Side to the other, and the Sailors not having well fastened two Tar-Barrels, they came loose, broke, and covered

vered the Ship's Deck all over with Tar, which was not cleaned without a great deal of Trouble to the Sailors. The Wind continued rough the following Day: The third Day the Wind changed towards the Evening, into a terrible Storm, and we were obliged to leave the Ship to Providence and the Mercy of the raging Winds and Sea. We had not long been tossed about, when a sudden Gust turned the Ship on one Side; nor were we able to raise her again, but one Sea after another poured into the Ship, and put us all in the greatest Consternation, and we were obliged to pump and work very hard all Night long: We endeavoured to raise the Ship by flinging over-board great part of our Cargo, which was Rice, but all to no Purpose, and we were almost spent by hard Labour, and pumping all Night, till about Noon the next Day, when we cut down the Main-Mast, to try whether by that Means we could raise the Ship, but this neither had the desired Effect: We endeavoured then to fling the Anchors and heavy Canon over-board, but were not able to accomplish it, the Storm continuing, tossed the Ship in such a Manner that none was able to stand. The Pepper, which made Part of our Cargo, had filled our Pump, and spoiled the Use thereof: We could get
no

no Victuals, and we looked disconsolate upon one another, expecting nothing but to be swallowed up every Moment by the Waves of the Sea.

Whilst thus we stood bemoaning our deplorable Case, we on a sudden espied a Ship about two Miles from us: We imagined it to have been one of ours, and hung out a Piece of white Cloth, and fired a Gun of Distress; but instead of making up to us, they hoisted more Sail, and directed their Course from us, leaving us to Divine Providence. To make our Escape in the Long and Small Boats, was, as we thought, a Thing impossible; till at last, some came to a Resolution to put out the Small-Boat, which was soon filled by those as were extraordinary nimble: Such as miss'd the Boat in jumping fell into the Sea, of which some good Swimmers overtook the Boat, the rest were drowned: Those that got in, were thirteen in Number. But we, that remain'd on Board, finding the Ship sink more and more, thought it now necessary to put out the Long-Boat, in order to save our Lives: All Hands got to work; four Carpenters, two on each Side, stood ready to wait the Opportunity of a Sea coming to carry her from on Board; and as soon as they saw one come, they cut the Cables by which she

was

was fastened to the Ship, and set her a-float. Presently a great Number jumped in, and put off: Many jumped into the Sea, and swam after us; so that at last 150 of us were in the Boat, by which she was quite filled; the rest of our Crew, which endeavoured by swimming to come up to us, could not be taken in, but we were obliged to see them drowned before our Eyes.

We were not a Pistol shot from the Ship, before we saw her sink: It was a melancholy Sight to see such a fine and rich Ship go to the Bottom of the Sea; and the rest of the Men, which stay'd behind, together with many Animals, tofs'd about by the Waves, all bound to be drowned. This happened at Sun-set; a little while after, the Small-Boat came up to us, and the People pray'd to let them have a Steersman; to which we consented, the rather, because that by this Means we should ease our Boat; but they coming near us, one of our Crew cry'd out, Oh! we are sinking! upon which they presently put off, and we never saw them afterwards again, nor has there been any thing heard of them, so that in all Likelihood they were lost. The mean while Night came upon us, and it may easily be imagined what a lamentable Condition we were in: The Sea indeed began to be calm, which
gave

gave us some Comfort, and we pray'd with great Fervency to God, not to give us over to the Deep, but if it was his blessed Will, to send us safe a-Shore. The same Night we rowed on before the Wind : The next Morning, our Captain said, we should never get to Shore, unless we used some other Means : He then ordered some Barrel-Hoops to be nailed two Foot one from the other round the Boat, and to cover them with Sail-Cloth, which should be nail'd at bottom, and fastened a-top with Ropes and Lathes. This was done accordingly, and it was a great Safe-guard against the Beating of the Waves. The rest of the Cloth was made use of for Sails : Our Masts were made out of the Rudders ; and having lost our Helm, the Carpenter was obliged to make another ; but to give him Room enough to work, we were obliged to lie one upon another.

We thought, after the Carpenter had done, we were now compleatly fitted out, and we had all good Hopes of getting safe on Shore, although by our Calculation we were 120 Leagues from the Island of *St. Maurice* ; when by the Inspiration of the Devil, our People came to a Resolution to fling forty Men into the Sea, in order to lighten the Boat ; and all that our Chaplain could

could say, or argue against it, was to no Purpose; they told him, that he spoke good Divinity, but they knew better, what Danger they were exposed to, and if they should sink, their Families at Home would suffer for it. The Chaplain seeing that his Preaching was but to little Purpose, kept silent, and then thirteen were flung over-board; among whom was a Moor, who, by his good Swimming over-took the Boat, and got hold thereof: They were going to chop off his Fingers, but that was not suffered; nevertheless they forced his Hands from the Boat, and the poor Wretch was drowned without Mercy.

The Officers were ready to fling more of the People over-board, but we all began to speak, and told them, in case Necessity should require it to drown more Men, we would draw Lots, and every Man should take his Chance, from the highest to the lowest: This was agreed on by most Votes; and presently they made as many Tickets as there were Men, out of squar'd Papers, of half which Number they tore off a Corner, and rolled them up all alike, put them into a Bag, and laid them by, in case of eminent Danger to draw Lots, and such as should draw a Ticket with the Corner tore off, should without any farther Regard, be flung over-

over-board. This soon silenced those who had shewn themselves busy in flinging People into the Sea, and made them pursue their Voyage, with a fair Wind and Weather. We sat very much thronged, sometimes one upon another, and were destitute both of Provision and Water: Our Thirst was so great that we were obliged to drink one another's Urine. We had a few hard Biskets, but we did not know how to get them down our scorched Throats: Five of our Company ventured to drink Sea-Water, but it had this bad Effect upon them, that they died in three Hours after, raving mad: They were flung over-board, and by that Means our Boat was lightened of eighteen Men.

The 20th of *February* we espied the *Maurice* Island, which put us all into a Transport of Joy, and by Sun-set, blessed be God, we got safe on Shore, after we had been upon the Sea nine Days.

As soon as we had set Foot on Land, we went directly up to a River, which was not far from where we landed: Here we reviv'd our Spirits; and never was any Cordial so refreshing than was the Water that Time to us all. We were, however, very weak and feeble, and could hardly walk along; for we had neither eat nor drank for the Space
of

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of twenty Days, save our Urine. We kept that Night together in the open Air, and having no Shelter, we were thoroughly soaked by a heavy Shower of Rain.

The next Morning we consulted how to satisfy our Hunger, and divided ourselves into small Parties, some going one Way, some another: We found on the Sea Shore a few Crabs and Shell-Fish, which we were obliged to eat raw, and went down with a good Appetite. The Night following we had a terrible Storm and Tempest; it rained very hard, the Sea and Winds roar'd most furiously, and the Waves drove us up against the Mountains, from whose Summits came Torrents of Water pouring upon us; and thus with the cold Rain-Water, and the Inclemency of the Weather, we were almost perished with Cold; nor did we expect any thing else but Death: But it pleas'd God to abate the Fury of the Winds, and the next Morning, with the Approach of the Sun, we had fine Weather again; which made us reflect on God's Providence, and consider, that if the Tempest had overtaken us in our Boat at Sea, we must unavoidably have perished. We then went in Search of a Place, which might shelter us from the Inclemency of the Weather, and at last came to a Cave in a Rock, which would hold
about

about 200 Men. Being provided with a Lodging, we went to look out for Provision: The Tops of Palm-Trees looked very tempting, which we cut and eat instead of Bread: Some tied a sharp-pointed Nail to a Stick, others made Nets of the Bark of Trees, and so we went a Fishing: We caught very good Fish in the River, and we saw in some Channels, fine young Turbots, which we prick'd with our Nails, and so drew them a-Shore: We found also some fine Turtles, Oysters, Snails, and other Sea and Shell-Fish, but were obliged to eat them raw, for we had no Fire, and none of us knew how to make any, the heavy Rains having made every Thing very wet; and leading this uncomfortable Life, some of our desperate Comerades came to a Resolution to set out in the Long-Boat, for the Island of *Madagascar*, in order to see whether they could provide for the Relief of the rest of us; but the Boat being, by the tempestuous Waves carried a good Way on the Strand, we had a great deal of Trouble before we could set her a-float; however, this was accomplished, and thirteen of the Men voluntaily chose to go: They furnished themselves with all such Necessaries as the Nature and Produce of the Place could afford, and then took their Leave, in
Hopes

Hopes of seeing one another again; but we never heard of them since.

We that staid behind, had no other Prospect but to live and die in that Place. We consulted to find out Ways and Means to come at Fire and Salt; for we thought, if we were but furnished with these two Necessaries of Life, we might do well enough: In order to enjoy the Benefit of them both, every one used his Endeavours, but in vain, till one of our Men, who had taken a Pistol with him, when he left the Ship, went into the Forest, and it being a dry and fine Day, he cocked his Piece, and fired some Moss, which he blow'd, and thus made it flame: This created an universal Joy among us all: We then chopp'd Branches off of withered Trees, and made larger and smaller Fires in several Places, that if one should happen to go out, another might remain kindled.

We then divided ourselves into small Bodies: I with one Party went along the Strand, to look out for a Settlement, and came at last to a River, that fell into a Pool, made by the Ebbing of the Sea, about a Pistol-shot wide, which we observed to harbour a great many Fish, but with high Water, they followed the Tide into the Sea: To prevent which, we stopped the Mouth of the Channel with Sticks, by fix-

ing them into the Ground, and tied them about an Inch one from the other; by which Means we kept the Fish back: At low Water, we had the Pool almost dry, and a large Quantity of fine Fish: We then call'd the other Party to share with us, and every one took as many as he would: We splitted some, and dried them in the Sun, some we smoaked, for it was impossible for us to broil or boil them all; and not having Salt, we only sprinkled them over with Sea-Water, which had a bad Effect on our Lungs.

I then remembered in what Manner I had seen them prepare the Salt in *Amboyne*, and after a mature Deliberation, and contriving how to furnish myself with proper Utensils for this Work, I at last hit upon the following Expedient: We put a good deal of Wood upon a flat Stone, set it a-fire, and poured continually Sea-Water over it; and when it was all burnt to Ashes, we put it into a Linnen Cloth, poured Water thereon, and made a Lye, which we boil'd in Cocoa-Nut-Shells; and after this Manner we got a good white Salt. The other Party, who came to visit us, were not a little surpriz'd at our Manufactory, to whom we communicated the Secret, and they, in the like Manner, went to boiling of Salt, this caused
a great

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a great Longing after Flesh: We had fine Wild-Fowls, Wild-Goats, and other Animals in our View, but we had not gained Strength enough to hunt after them, therefore we were obliged to content ourselves with Fish; and a Rain ensuing, soak'd our half-dried Fish, so that they began to stink, which made that Place disagreeable to us, and we removed farther up the Island. Coming to a large River, we put up some Huts, with a Design to continue there for some Time; but having not been settled above five Days, another Party of our People came to the same Quarter, whom we did not like, and therefore we removed from thence; then going about two Miles along the Strand, we saw several small Islands, which were parted from the main Islands, only by small Rivulets or Brooks, which we could wade at low Water. One of these little Islands lying high, and being full of Bushes, looked like a Grove, very pleasant, which enticed us to fix our Habitation there.

In this Island we found a fresh Water Rivulet, stored with fine Fish; near to which, under a large Tree, we built our Hut, to shelter us from the Wind and Rain: There we also found Wild-Goats, and several Sorts of Wild-Fowl, which

seemed rather to be tame than wild; for they would stand a very near Approach before they made their Retreat. Among the rest of the Fowls, we saw a Sort that were larger than Geese: They could not fly because of the Smallness of their Wings, but they were very nimble a-foot: We hunted these Birds into one another's Hands, and when one was caught, it would make a very great Outcry, which being heard by the rest, they came running to its Assistance, and thereby made themselves a Prey: We caught a great Number of other Wild-Fowls; and Wild-Goats we might have at our Pleasure: We found here also Tortoises, large enough to carry two or three Men on their Backs; the Meat whereof eat delicate, and their Shells served us for Furniture and Utensils,

Thus we were provided with most Necessaries of Life in a plentiful Manner: We had the Conveniency of Boiling and Roasting. The Island had plenty of Palm-Trees, which being tapped, afforded us a pleasant Liquor, and served us instead of Wine. We led this Sort of Life for a considerable Time, so that we forgot the Days of the Week, and every Day was a Holyday to us, for we had nothing else to do, but to pray and to follow our Sport. One Time,
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at low Water, four of us went into the main Island, to pay a Visit to the other Settlements: We met in some Places with five, in others seven Persons, who all looked with a mean Aspect, and wondered to see us so fat and jolly: We had a little Salt about us, which we presented to them, and taught them how to boil it themselves. After we had ranged about the main Island for four Days, and been entertained by the several Colonies, who had learn'd to catch Wild-Fowls and Goats, and introduced the Use of Salt, walking along the Strand, we espied, to our inexpressible Joy and Comfort, a Ship advancing towards the Island; but not knowing where about she would anchor, we walked full three Days to keep her in our View, and as soon as we saw her at Anchor, we gave a Sign with a Shirt, which we had tied to a Pole; upon which some of the Ship's Crew came to us in the Small-Boat, enquiring what we wanted. We acquainted them with our Shipwreck, and in what Manner Providence had saved us on that Island: We prayed them to take some of us on Board, to which they answered, that they first must receive the Captain's Orders, before they could do it: They then rowed to the Ship, and acquainted the Captain with what they had learned; when

presently they returned and carried us on Board.

We then prayed the Captain (after we had made our Report to him of our Adventures) to present us with a couple of Pots, some Knives, and a Hatchet, a Gun, Powder, and Ball, some Linnen, Needles and Thread, a little Pepper, Ginger, Plaister, and some Medicines. The Captain spoke very civil to us, and told us we should be provided with every Thing necessary, if we did chuse to stay, but if not, he would find us in Provision and Cloaths, and carry us to *Cambaya*: We accepted of his last kind Proffer, and returning to Shore, we searched for the rest, and got about twenty-four Men together, who resolved to go along with the Captain; but coming on Board, four, who were *Dutchmen*, begged some Relief, and chose rather to go back to the Island; they then were supplied with several Necessaries, and put on Shore again. Six Months after, they were, with the rest of the Sailors, (thirty-four in all) carried to *Holland* by a *Dutch* Privateer. I, and the rest, who put too much Faith in the Captain's fair Promises, fair'd but very poorly, being hardly allowed sufficient Sustenance, and therefore we wished ourselves along with those we had left behind in the plentiful Island; but
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at last we arrived safe at *Cambaya*: Having thanked the Captain for my Relief, I went on Board a *Dutch Ship*, which was bound for *Surat*, at which Place we safely arrived, *October* the 8th, 1662, where I continued five Years in the *East-India Company's* Service, and then going to *Batavia*, in 1667, I went from thence to *Amsterdam*.

C H A P. V.

Pinto's Shipwreck.

PINTO, who has wrote his surprizing Adventures himself, gives us the following Detail of the deplorable Shipwreck he suffered when the *Portugueze* Governor of *Malacca* sent him Ambassador to the *Indies*, beyond the *River Ganges*, namely to the King of *Aaru*, who was in Alliance with the *Portugueze*, and at that Time at War with one of the neighbouring Kings. At his Arrival there, he was well received, and treated with all the Marks of Respect and Friendship, with which he also was dismiss'd when he left that Place. Having taken his Leave of the King, and set sail, he arrived at Sun-set in the Mouth of the River to a Village, which contained not above twelve

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thatched

thatched Houses, inhabited by poor People, whose Livelihood was to catch Vipers, and to prepare from the Liver of them a Poison, wherewith the *Indians* poison their Arrows and Darts. This Poison is counted the most pernicious, in that there is no Antidote to expel it. The next Morning they sailed with a fair Wind along the Coast, and towards the Evening they had made up in Sight of the Island *Anchepisan*. Whilst there was any Day remaining, they steer'd their Course off Land in the High Sea: About the first Night Watch the Wind changed to North East, which commonly blows in the Island *Sumatra*. This Wind made the Sea very turbulent, and soon changed into a violent Storm, by which they were deprived of their Masts and Sails, and exposed to the utmost Danger; at last their Ship sprung a Leak at three Places in the Keel, and the Water rush'd in with such Force, and in such Quantities, that they were not able to save any Thing before the Ship sunk, together with twenty-three Persons, out of which five saved themselves on the main Rock, against which the Ship had run: All this happened in less than a Quarter of an Hour. Among the five Persons that were saved, was *Pinto*, who says, that their Misery was very great; they had

no Provision to live upon, but a few wild Oranges that grew upon the Trees, and Things which the Waves of the Sea flung on Shore there. Here they continued for three Days; at last they made their Way up the Island, and came to the Mouth of the River, which was not above a Bow-shot wide, but very deep: They were obliged to stay there till Night; and in the Morning, after they had been most miserably tormented by the Gnats and Flies from the neighbouring Woods, *Pinto* asked the rest of his Comrades, whether none of them knew the Country, and whether it was not possible to find some Inhabitants and Shelter: Whereupon the eldest of them answered, they were all dead Men; and having signified to the rest that he was a sincere Penitent for all his past Offences, and that he hoped for Mercy through the Merits of his Redeemer, he expir'd in *Pinto's* Arms: The Want of Provision, and the great Effusion of Blood from his Head, occasioned by a Splinter from the wrecked Ship (the Wound being very much corrupted by the Salt Water) had hastened his End: *Pinto* himself was very weak on Account of the Hurt he received by the fall on the Rock. After they had buried this unhappy Man, as well as their Strength would allow, the

three Mariners and *Pinto* resolv'd to cross the River, that they might rest themselves the following Night upon the Trees they saw on the opposite Shore, thereby to secure themselves from the Crocodiles and Tygers, which harboured here in great Plenty; also, innumerable Serpents, so poisonous as to kill Men with their Breath. Having thus resolved, *Pinto* desired that two of them should make their Way over first, and leave one with him to help him along in the Water, his Weakness being so great, that he was hardly able to stand upon his Legs. They agreed to it, and having advanced about half Way the River, two large Crocodiles seized and devoured them in the Sight of *Pinto* and his Companion. They both were so surpriz'd at this shocking Sight, that they did not know which way to get out of the Water; for they had entered the River above their Wastes, and were ready to follow the other two, when they saw them thus miserably devoured.

In this Surprise *Pinto* sat three Hours before he was able to recover his Senses or Speech. The Day following, they saw a Barge coming up to the Mouth of the River; and as soon as the Vessel was near enough, they fell on their Knees, and with folded Hands prayed the Barge-Men to
take

take them in : Those that were in the Barge stopp'd, seeing by their pitiful Appearance that they had suffered Shipwreck ; and asked what had driven them to this doleful Place ? *Pinto* related to them all their Misfortunes, and pray'd them not to depart without taking them on Board. One of these *Barbarians*, who seemed to be the Chief among them, gave *Pinto* very rough Language, and told him they were useless for Labour, and incapable of getting the Bread they would eat ; but, said he, if you have any Money about you, and you will let us have it, we will take you on Board, otherwise you cannot expect any Assistance from us : Having said this, they made a Motion to put off again, but *Pinto* and his Partner in Misfortune, begged of them to take them in, and to sell them for Slaves in what Place they would ; *Pinto* assured them, they should receive as much Redemption Money for his own Person as they should demand, he being a particular Friend to the Governor of *Malacca*. Come on then, said the *Barbarian*, we will take you in, on this Condition, that in case you tell me any Untruth, you shall be tied Neck and Heels together, and flung into the Sea : This Condition was accepted ; whereupon four out of the Barge came on Shore to help them

them on Board, for they were hardly able to stir; nevertheless those Brutes tied their Legs to the Mast, and beat them unmercifully, to make them confess where they had hid their Money. Having almost killed them both, they left *Pinto* in that Condition, and gave the other unfortunate Wretch a Draught of a certain Sort of Lime, which they had infused in Urine, of which he so dreadfully vomited, that in an Hour's Time he departed from the tormenting *Barbarians*. These Savages finding he had vomited no Money, as they expected, and on which account they had given him the Draught, did not care to try the same Project upon *Pinto*, but they only washed his Wounds, with that Liquid, which caused such insupportable Pain, as put him almost in the Agonies of Death, and he expected nothing else, but to follow his Companion every Moment. They having made their Way up the River, arrived the next Day at a Place called *Ciaca*, where the Houses were all thatched with Straw, and belonged to the Kingdom of *Jambes*: Here they kept *Pinto* for twenty-seven Days, in which Time he was perfectly cured of his Wounds. Those who had taken him in were seven in Number, and they seeing that *Pinto* was not qualified for their Business (which was Fishing).

Fishing) they carried him three Times to the Slave-Market, and exposed him to Sale, but could get no Chaps to buy him; wherefore they gave him a Kik on his Breech, and sent him going to shift for himself: After which, he went for thirty-six Days, like a cast out Dog, from Door to Door to beg Alms, but received very little to support Nature, the People being not only very poor, but of an uncharitable and brutish Nature.

In this his doleful Circumstances he used to wander about, naked and hungry. One sunshiny Day, when he had stretched himself on the Beach, a *Mahometan* of *Pahembam* came by, and having been before at *Malacca*, and frequented among the *Portugueze*, he asked *Pinto*, whether he was not a *Portugueze*? To which *Pinto* replied, Yea, and said he was born of rich Parents, who would be very liberal in paying for his Redemption, in case he could bring him to *Malacca*, for he was nearly related to the Governor there. The *Mahometan* desired him to tell him the Truth, and he would see what he could do for him. *Pinto* related to him every Thing that had happened, and the dismal State he was driven to, and how he was abandoned by the Fishermen, because they could get no body
to

to buy him. The *Mabometan* having heard *Pinto's* Case, said, Young Man, you must know that I am but a poor Merchant, whose Stock is not above the Value of 100 *Par-duins*, or 50 Crowns: With this small Sum I have begun to deal with Eggs of *Elfts*, (a Sort of Fish) in order to maintain myself; but I have had no Success in that Undertaking, yet I am well assured, I should make some Gain at *Malacca*, were it not for the Principal Dealers, who endeavour to keep as well myself as all other small Dealers under; nevertheless I should be glad to make a Voyage to *Malacca*, in case you think I can be there safe and unmolested; I will buy you of the Fishermen, and carry you along with me. *Pinto*, by the Merchant's Speech, was melted into Tears of Joy and Gratitude, and was hardly able to answer him; till recovering himself, he told him, that his present Condition and Appearance did, no doubt, create a Suspicion of his being an Impostor, but that he assured him from the Sincerity of his Heart, if he would bring him safe to *Malacca*, he would not only be received by the Governor with all the Marks of Honour and Friendship, be exempted from the Duty on his Commodity, but have besides a handsome Recompence for his Ransom. This encouraged

raged the Merchant to pursue the Bargain, and advised *Pinto* not to tell these Things to the Fishermen, lest they should set too much upon his Ransom; and in order to buy him the cheaper, he made use of an Inhabitant of that Place, who went to the Fishermen and struck the Bargain; and since he was of no Use to them, he bought *Pinto* for a small Sum of Money, and brought him to his House, where he was a Sort of Prisoner for five Days, and under the Power of the Savage Fishermen, till the Money was paid them: Then his new Master carried him twenty Miles off, to a Place called *Sorabassa*, where he soon freighted his Ship with Elfts-Eggs: The Sea there produces those Fish in great Quantities, of which the Females are only made use of, for the Sake of the Eggs, and of which no less than 100 Ships are yearly freighted, each Ship holding from 150 to 200 Barrels, and each Barrel about 2000 Eggs: The rest of the Fish bring them no Profit. This Merchant, having freighted his Ship, set sail for *Malacca*, where he safely arrived: After three Days, he carried *Pinto* to the Castle, before the Governor, whom he acquainted with the Bargain they had made. When the Governor saw *Pinto* in that pitiful Condition,

he

he was struck with a Surprize, which forced him to burst out in a Flood of Tears: He desired him to talk loud, that he might be known by his Speech, since by the Change of his Countenance he appeared not the same Man: A great Number of People (as soon as the Rumour of his Arrival was spread) repair'd to Court, and every Body that look'd at him, was moved with Astonishment and Compassion; they brought him Presents in such Abundance, that in a Day or two, he became richer than before he set out from thence. The Governor presented the Merchant with sixty Ducats, and two Pieces of *China* Damask; he quitted him also the Impost of his Merchandize, which came to as much, and so dismissed him; but *Pinto* was taken care of by proper Physicians, till he was fully restored again to his former Health and Vigour, and able to return God Thanks in a publick Manner for his miraculous Delivery.

C H A P. VI.

An exact Account of the wonderful Preservation of a Gentlewoman from Shipwreck, coming from Altona for London: Wrote by herself in High Dutch.

OCTOBER the 10th, 1735; about 9 o'Clock in the Morning, I took Leave of my dear Parents at *Altona*, and tho' Wind and Weather seemed to be very favourable, yet I had several sad Omens of my ensuing Troubles. For both my Brothers-in-Law going a little before me to convey my Baggage on Board the Ship, which lay at *New Mill*, I and my Brother and Sister following them in a Coach; when we came thither the Ship was sail'd. My Brothers-in-Law coming sooner than we, resolved to follow the Ship, leaving Word with a Waterman at *New Mill*, to charge us to stay till they came back to fetch us: But this Man, for what Reason, I know not, pretended to have Orders from my Friends to bring me after them to *Stade*, where the Ship was gone; my Brother thinking it very unsafe to send me alone in that cold Weather, without the least necessary

cessary Provision, persuaded me rather to go back again to *Altona* and hire a covered Boat, which should carry me and my Friends to *Stade*: But at our return to *Altona*, we could not presently get a Boat to fit us. My Friends, in the mean Time, not knowing why their Orders left at *New Mill* had been so ill observed, came in all haste to acquaint us, that my Goods were already on Board. At two o'Clock in the Afternoon, I went, with my two Brothers-in-Law in a Wherry, from the Bridge at *Altona*, but at three the Boat stuck fast upon the Sand, it being at low Ebb, where we were forced to stay till the Return of the Flood, and endured the sharp Cold and Wind as well as we could, with Patience.

Tuesday Morning about one o'Clock, *Oct.* 11th, we reached the Ship at *Stade*, where we were glad to refresh ourselves, having eat but very little the Day before. After this, my Friends took their Leave, and I lay down upon a Bench in the Cabbin, all the Beds being taken up by other Passengers, but could not Sleep, because of the Cold, having very little to cover myself withal, my Things being all stowed where I could not get at them.

Next Morning about seven o'Clock, we set sail with a fair Wind, which brought us
a great

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a great Way the same Day, and which also continued *Wednesday* the 12th. But the Night following, a violent Storm arose, which threatened our inevitable Ruin.

Thursday, the Storm seem'd rather to abate, the Wind continuing fair. Between two and three o'Clock, we espied Land to our great Joy, though that was but of a short Duration, for about five o'Clock the Ship struck on a Sand-Bank. I was at that Instant sitting at the Door of the Cabbin with my Female Fellow-Passenger, who immediately cried out, *O Skipper, what are you doing?* He answered, *I cannot help it.* I entreated her to be quiet. The Sailors tried all possible Means to get the Ship off again, but all in vain, the Ship giving so many Shocks in a few Minutes, that we could not count them. This put every one into the greatest Confusion, one running this Way, another that Way, not knowing what to do. The Skipper cry'd out, *Fire the Guns*, which some body contradicted. This being neglected, they cry'd unanimously, *Out with the Boat.* But as soon as the little Boat was let down, the Waves filled it immediately, so that it sunk before our Eyes. Whereupon they with great Difficulty heaved out the great Boat, by which Accident I had like to have been
crush'd

crush'd to Pieces; I fell and hurt myself grievously. As soon as it was let down, all the Ship's Crew jump'd into it in an Instant. I and my Fellow-Passenger stood at the Side of the Ship, not doubting but that they would take us in likewise: But the Skipper took me by my Arm, and said, *Madam, stand by*; which I did, in hopes he would help me and my Fellow-Traveller into the Boat, she being already upon the outward Rim of the Ship, crying to them for God's Sake not to leave us behind them: I called once more, and said, *Skipper, you have brought me lately from London to Hamburg, will you let me perish here?* But neither he nor his Crew made me the least Answer, but went their Way. Then I thought, *O astonishing Barbarity! What is the Reason of such an inhuman Proceeding, wilfully to let us perish, tho' there was sufficient Room to save us both? The Lord forgive them!* My Fellow Traveller repeated her lamentable Skrieks after them, but their Hearts and Ears were deaf to our Cries. Whereupon I desired her to come into the Ship again, for fear a Wave should wash her into the Sea. We therefore went to the forepart of the Ship, sitting down upon the great Cable fastened to the Mast, which we thought the highest part of the Ship, where

we

we would wait the Mercies of the Lord, into whose Almighty Protection we resigned ourselves entirely. Every now and then we called out as loud as we could, having espied several Lights on Shore, but all to no Purpose.

In this deplorable Condition, where we saw nothing but inevitable Death before our Eyes, we cry'd unto the Lord from the Bottom of our Souls to deliver us according to his infinite Mercy. There was still a young Man Passenger on Board, who seemed very melancholly and dejected, and did not strive to go off with the Boat ; but when it was gone, he said we should commit ourselves to God, which I thought, we should do at all Times. My Female Companion began then to break out in these Words: *Now are we forsaken of all Men!* I answered her, in Hope and full Confidence; *But not of God*, who was still my only Refuge. Thus we encouraged each other, as well as we could, to keep the little Spark of our Faith and Confidence in God alive, that it might not be quite extinguished in that dismal, dark, cold, and rainy Night. We continued embracing one another, in order to warm our wet and frozen Limbs, and praying without ceasing ; I having it continually upon my Mind,

Mind, that God could and would deliver me. The aforesaid Man Passenger, who either was got in the Middle or farthest Part of the Ship, for we could not see him in that dismal dark Night, called upon us every now and then, to know whether we were still alive. The Sea in the mean Time rising higher and higher, we perceived the Ship sink lower and deeper by Degrees, so that we expected every Moment to be swallowed up by the Waves; and by the Continuance of the Rain, there was little Difference between our sad Lodging and that of being in the midst of the Sea; since the Waves were now our Bed, and the Rain our Coverlid.

Having sat in that dismal Condition, I think, till ten at Night, I felt the Ship give way more sensibly than before; whereupon I said to my Companion, *Now the Ship is going*, which she would not believe, but I had scarce pronounced the Words, before it over-turned; upon which she cry'd out: *Now Madam* — which were her last Words, as if she would have said: *Now we are quite lost and undone*. At that Instant we were both washed into the Sea. Now, thought I, thou wilt experience the Separation of Soul and Body; but the Lord at that Instant sent me Help; which I could have

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have also wished my poor Companion from the Bottom of my Soul, if it had been his blessed Will; for when I was tossed up by the Waves, I laid fast hold on something, thinking at the same Time: Should there be any Deliverance for thee? And opening mine Eyes, by the Light of the Waves, I found it to be the Steps that used to stand near the Mast, upon which I crawled with one Foot, but the other was so lame with Cold and long Sitting, that with the utmost Difficulty, I heaved it up with my Hand. I crawled then as far as I could, till I found I sat upon hard Wood, which I took to be the Side of the overturned Ship. Here I sat all Night, extreemly pinched with Cold. O how long did I think that dismal Night, so that I can say with Truth: *If thou, my God, badst not been my Comfort, I should have perished in my Trouble.* In these doleful Circumstances, I could not help being now and then inclined to fall asleep; but I feared either to be frozen to Death, or to fall into the Sea again. When at last the long expected Morning began to approach, I saw, to the unspeakable Trouble of my Soul, the Female Companion of my Misery floating about the Ship; the other Passenger being likewise drowned. O what a lamentable Sight was that! O dearest Lord Jesu, what
am

*am I better than these poor Souls, that thou
hast still delivered me from Destruction.*

However, that gracious Morning, *October* the 14th, renewed in my Mind the Hope of my Deliverance, and made me look carefully about, whether I could espy any Ships coming that Way; all that passed by, I call'd upon as well as I could, but none would hear me. About nine o'Clock in the Morning, I saw a Boat like a Fisherman's, sailing directly towards me, but when it came so nigh, that they could see me very plain, it went off again, and failed between a little Island and the Shore, behind which, I could plainly perceive the Boat, lying still. [Now every one may imagine what a sharp Look-out I made.] I then espied eight or nine Persons upon the afore-said Island, consulting together; they could see me, and I them; I concluded they were the very Crew that had left our Ship the Day before. They looked for some Time upon the lost Ship and me in Distress, sitting upon it; at last I saw the Mast of their Boat still lying, with the Sails down, behind the little Island. What their Intention was in coming towards me, but turning back again and leaving me in that desolate Condition, the Lord only knows. These People being gone out of my Sight, all the
Hopes

Hopes of my Deliverance seemed now to be at an End, especially since I was almost spent and dead with Cold, and had but little Life left in me. And since I was not able to call out, I made Signals of my Distress, by holding up my Hands, whenever I saw any Ship passing by. But this was to no Purpose, for all went by without taking any Notice of me.

At last, the Lord in his infinite Mercy, looked upon me, and sent an honest *English* Captain into those Parts, who, spying a Hen Coop, which my dear Parents at *Altona* had given me, floating in the Sea, he concluded, a Ship must have been lost on that Coast, and that probably some Souls might still be in Danger of their Lives. Wherefore, not only himself, but also his Men, by his Order, looked out every where. To this End, he steered his Course as near the Shore, as the dangerous Sands of that Coast would permit him, I called to them with my feeble Voice, but they did not hear me; yet seeing me moving my Hands, the Captain immediately ordered his Boat with six of his best Sailors to come to my Assistance; charging them to make all the Haste they could to save me. When they came to me, I asked them with a weak Voice, whether I should come to the fore Part of

the Ship? They answered, Yes, if I could. But I had not Strength to rise from the Place where I sat: When they saw my Weakness, one of more Experience than the rest, bid me sit still, and take the Rope he threw me, and fasten it as well as I could: By this he raised himself and came to me, and taking me upon his Arm, let himself with me into the Boat, where another received me as well as he could. Then they made all possible Speed towards their own Ship. When we arriv'd, my Benefactor, to whom, under God, I owe my Life, received me very kindly on Board of her, carried me into his Cabbin and gave me a Cordial. He not only spoke, but did all he could to comfort me, and both the Captain and his Men were all ready and glad to serve me. *Thus after the utmost Tribulation, the Lord our God sent Abundance of Comfort, for which his Holy Name be blessed both now and for ever.*

The next Morning, *October 15th*, I begun to feel more sensibly what I had suffered before, the Pain in my Limbs being excessive great, which were in many Places black and blue.

Sunday, October 16th, I found myself a little better, so that I was able to relate the Circumstances of our Shipwreck. At Night
we

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we came to *Whitby*, where the Captain lived. Here he went a Shore, and informed his Family of my Misfortune. They would have had me stay with them, till I had recovered myself; but since I was not disposed to accept of their kind Offer, they sent me Cloaths and Linnen on Board, and a Servant Maid to wait on me, though it was now past one o'Clock in the Morning. This charitable Generosity and Compassion which my good God and Father had raised in the Hearts of those Strangers to assist me in the greatest Necessity, and plentifully to furnish me with all Manner of Necessaries, I shall never forget as long as I live. *The Lord remember them always in Mercy, and be their great Reward in Time and Eternity.*

Monday, October the 17th, We sail'd in the Name of God from thence, and I grew better and better. About three in the Afternoon, we arrived, through God's Mercy, safe at *Shiells*, where the Captain took his Loading. I wrote the same Day two Letters, one to my dear Father at *Altona*, and the other to my Husband in *London*: In both which I gave an Account, how wonderfully the Almighty Hand of God had delivered me from the imminent Danger of the Waves, *to whom alone be eternal Praise and Glory.*

316 *The WINTER'S EVENING*

On *Wednesday, October* the 19th, the Captain's Cousin, together with several other Gentlemen, who visited the Captain, came to me, and expressed their great Compassion.

Friday, October the 21st, We got the fatal Shipwreck, and my wonderful Preservation, inserted in the publick News, that if the aforesaid Letters should miscarry, my Friends might come to know, that, by the Lord's Mercy, I was still alive.

Sunday, October the 23d, About nine o'Clock in the Morning, a Merchant in *Newcastle* sent his Man and Horse, to bring me up to his House at *Newcastle*, which is about seven Miles from hence. He brought me at the same Time, a Letter from my Husband, who had recommended me to that Gentleman, by whose Order his Servants brought me Cloaths and Money, of which I stood in great Need, for I had lost all. When this Messenger arrived, the Captain was just going to Church, but he hearing that he was sent on Purpose to fetch me, he staid with me, and brought me from on Board to Shore, and in a most civil and affectionate Manner took his Leave of me; and so did one of his Friends. We departed then in the Name of God, by whose

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whose Assistance we arrived safe at *Newcastle* about two in the Afternoon.

Here I was received by this sincere Friend, a Gentleman of four-score Years of Age, and by his kind Spouse, in such a Manner, as I am not able sufficiently to express, they welcomed me from the Grave, and took me into their House on Condition I should not hasten my Departure, but stay as long as I would, till I had fully recovered my Health and Strength: As for their Part, they would treat me as their own Child, and whatever was in their Power to help me should be at my Service. Their tender and paternal Care of me during the six Weeks I staid at their House, shewed, that these were not empty Compliments. Their whole House and Family were as much at my Service, as if they had been my own.

On *Sunday, November* the 13th, My dear Husband arrived from *London*, whose Presence, one may easily imagine, raised my Spirits to that Degree, that it contributed very much to my Amendment.

After my Husband had been with me three whole Weeks, and we both had been very kindly entertained by this Christian Family, we took our Leave of them, and went the 6th of *December* at five o'Clock in the Morning, under the Divine Protection,

tection, from *Newcastle*. We dined at *Durham*, and at Night we came to *Peter's Hill*.

December 7th, We travelled 23 Miles, and laid at the *New Salutation*.

The third Day, *December* the 8th, We set out at four o'Clock in the Morning, and having travelled twenty-seven Miles that Day, we arrived about seven o'Clock at Night at the City of *York*.

Next Morning about five o'Clock, we set out from thence. After Dinner we set forward, but had the Mishap of our Coach being overturned, yet without the least Hurt of any Passenger, only a Gentlewoman fainted away with the Fright; I holding out pretty well, *Thanks be to God*. After this Accident, we met with greater Danger, being obliged to go a great Way through many Waters. We were but half a Mile from *Doncastar*, when the Coachman jump'd off from his Box, and told us, we must all come out of the Coach, though it was now very dark, it being seven o'Clock at Night, the North Light only giving a Glimmering now and then: This put every one of the Passengers into a great Consternation. When we came out, we were forced to wade through a deep Mud to the Foot-path, which was
not

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not above three Foot broad, on one Side of which, the Water was about nine Foot deep, and on the other, the Waters came down the Hill, and run over the Cause-way. I trembled like an Aspine-Leaf all the Way, so that my Husband was forced to hold me fast under his Arm, and was resolved, in case I should slip, to follow me, and rather be drowned with me, than leave me. [And here we had great Reason to remember the Words of *David*: *O hold thou up my Goings, that my Footsteps slip not.*] If we had misfed our Path, no Mortal could have saved us, every one having enough to do to take Care of himself.

At last the Lord brought us through that great Danger, and we got into the Coach again; we then rode still through the Water for half a Mile farther, which made my Husband break out into these lamentable Words: *O thou eternal and merciful God! When shall these great Trials have an End?* Coming to the Inn we ordered a good Fire to be made in our Room, by which we dried and refreshed ourselves: We then went to Rest, but at five we were call'd up again to pursue our dangerous Journey, rather by Water than Land, the Floods being so high, that every now and then we were in the utmost Danger of our Lives:
But

But by the Lord's merciful Assistance, we arrived at last, about six o'Clock at Night, at a Place called *Carlton*, where the Waters had overflowed all the Country to that Degree, that it look'd like an open Sea, and rose still a Foot higher that Night. Here we dried our Cloaths a second Time, and the People told us, we should, perhaps, be forced to stay a Fortnight before the Waters would abate, and the Roads be passable. Our Coachman notwithstanding all this, sent to enquire whether there was not a Boat to be had. There was one three Miles off, and we were obliged to hire a Guide to ride before the Coach, that the Coachman might not mistake the Road.

Thus we set out, commending ourselves to Almighty Providence, and reached, at last, the Place where the Boat lay, though not without great Dread and Apprehension: This Boat carried us over Hedges and Ditches for three Miles, and we were very often in the utmost Danger of being overturned, especially since the Force and Rapidity of the Stream was so violent, that four strong Pair of Hands could hardly manage the Boat. And what increased our frightful Circumstances, was the melancholy Prospect of so many Cows and Sheep bellowing and bleating upon some dry Hills here and there,

there, intimating their Want of Food, and the Danger of their Lives ; there was above six Foot, and in many Places nine Foot Water in the common Road, which my Husband came through from *London* to fetch me.

At last the mighty Hand of God brought us through all that frightful and dangerous Journey safe to *Newark*, which is half Way from *Newcastle* to *London*, where we arrived at two in the Afternoon. The People of that Town came flocking about us surpris'd to see Passengers that had escaped so many Dangers of the Waters, which had not been so high in those Parts within the Memory of Man. We praised the Lord, our kind and merciful Preserver the more fervently, and hearing that the Waters were not so high, nor so dangerous for the remaining Part of our Journey, we trusted our good God, who had deliver'd us from the greatest Dangers, would also deliver us from the little ones. Thus, after Dinner, we set forward in another Coach, and arriv'd at last safely at our House in *London*, about six o'Clock in the Evening, *December* 14th ; and tho' I had got a great Cold, yet found myself better than I expected.

Thus

Thus I have given the most material Circumstances of my past Dangers, and wonderful Deliverance, beseeching the Lord God to preserve my Friends, and greatest Enemies, (if I have any) nay all Mankind from the like Dangers, for his Infinite Mercy's Sake.

C H A P. VII.

A tragical Account, as it was inserted in the Gazetteer, Oct. 24. 1744.

Captain *Benjamin Kenney*, in a Schooner called the *Jolly Bumper*, Burden 40 Tuns, sailed the 16th of *June* last, from the Island of *Nevis*, with a large Fleet under the Convoy of Commodore *Knowles*; and about ten Days after, they met with 12 *Frenchmen* in a Canoo, who had saved themselves after their Brigantine was blown up by Accident, and three of their Men kill'd. Capt. *Kenney* being weak-handed, (having only Mr. *Harris*, his Mate, *Paul Arey*, a Sailor, and *Nat. March*, a Boy) took one of the *Frenchmen*, whose Name was *Francis Breson*, as a Sailor on Board the said Schooner; who behav'd himself civilly, and was kindly treated, till their striking Soundings

Soundings on *George's Banks*, on the 12th of *July*, about two in the Morning; when being on the Watch with *Paul Arey*, he took an Opportunity, when *Arey* was at the Pump, and beat out his Brains with an Axe; and immediately stepping to the Cabbin Door call'd to the Captain to come up directly, saying, *Paul is fallen down upon the Deck and is almost dead*; and no sooner had the Captain put his Head out of the Cabbin Door, but he knocked him down with the Axe. He then ran to the Forecastle, and call'd out to the Mate; *Mr. Harris, come up in a Moment, the Captain wants you*; upon which *Harris* look'd out at the Scuttle, and *Breson* beat out his Brains with the Axe; and then call'd, *Nat, If you for me, I no kill you, go with me to Cape Breton*; and then bore away before the Wind. About half an Hour after Capt. *Kenney* revived and crawled up to the Cabbin Door; upon which *Breson* took the Axe, and knocked the Captain down a second Time into the Cabbin. He afterwards reviving again, crawled out of the Cabbin upon Deck, where he lay some Time wallowing in his Blood. *Breson* then asked *Nat*, whether he should kill him; who desired he would not, but let him pray to his God; which he did in a sensible and earnest Manner.

ner. In about half an Hour his Speech fail'd him, and then *Breson* kill'd him with the Axe. About Two in the Afternoon, *Breson* having drank very freely, laid himself down on the Quarter Deck, with the Axe under his Arm, and a long Knife hanging by his Side, and there fell asleep; upon which *March* took the Axe, and kill'd him upon the Spot; and on the 15th of *July*, after many Difficulties run the Vessel on Shore between two Cliffs of Rocks, where she struck on a foul rocky Bottom. He remained almost two Days on Board pumping, to keep the Schooner free; after which the Butts started, and she fill'd with Water. Then he travelled for 16 Days by the Sea Shore, not knowing upon what Land he was, and being almost spent, and despairing of Life, he met with two *Indians*, who took him on Board their Canoo, and carried him to *St. George's*, between *New England* and *Nova Scotia*; where, before *Jabez Bradbury*, Esq; he made Oath to the Truth of the foregoing. Whereupon Mr. *Bradbury* sent immediately and procured Capt. *Dennel's* Sloop, who went with the said *March*, and arriv'd on the 6th of *August* where the Schooner was on Shore, and saved what was remaining of the Wreck.

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